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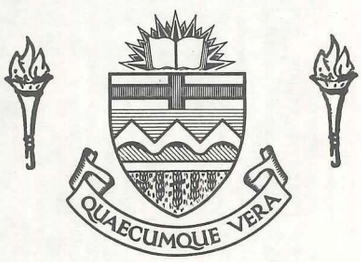

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OF

British Parliamentary Papers

ANNUAL REPORTS ON THE STATE OF THE COLONIES

1884-85

Colonies General

23

IRISH UNIVERSITY PRESS

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PAPERS

RELATING TO

HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS,

REPORTS FOR 1881, 1882, 1883.

(*In continuation of* [C.–3794.] *of August* 1883.)

A Map will be found at page 184.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
May 1884.

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VICTORIA.

No. 1.

Governor the MARQUIS OF NORMANBY, G.C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY.

Government House, Melbourne,
October 22, 1883.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to enclose to your Lordship a Digest of the Statistics of the Colony of Victoria for the year 1882.

I have, &c.
(Signed) NORMANBY.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Derby,
&c. &c.

DIGEST of the STATISTICS of VICTORIA, 1882.

By HENRY HEYLYN HAYTER, C.M.G., Government Statist.

Discovery.

1. The part of Australia now called Victoria was discovered by the eminent explorer, Captain Cook, in H.M.S. "Endeavour." He made the land on the 19th April 1770, and estimated a prominent point, which he named after Lieutenant Hicks, one of the officers of his vessel, who first observed it to be in latitude 38° South, longitude 140° 53′ East. Cook, however, did not attempt to land, but passed on to other discoveries. It may be observed that Point Hicks appears to be identical with the present Cape Everard* in Gippsland, situated about midway between Cape Howe and the mouth of the Snowy River.

Early history.

2. New South Wales was colonized in 1788, and for nearly ten years afterwards nothing was done towards the exploration of the southern shores of Australia. At length George Bass, a surgeon in the Royal Navy, started in a whaleboat, manned by six seamen, and, passing Cape Howe, coasted along that part of Victoria now called Gippsland, and rounding Wilson's Promontory, the southernmost point on the Australian continent, entered Western Port on the 4th June 1798. He, however, returned to Sydney without discovering Port Phillip Bay, which was first entered on the 5th January 1802 by Acting Lieutenant John Murray, in command of the armed brig "Lady Nelson." In the month of October in the following year an attempt was made to colonize Port Phillip by Lieutenant David Collins of the Royal Marines in command of a party of convicts. Collins, however, after the expiration of three months abandoned the country as unfit for settlement, and for the next twenty years the district attracted but little attention; when two explorers, Hume and

* The latitude of Cape Everard, according to the latest computation, is 37° 49′ S. and the longitude 149° 17′ E.

Ro 9770. Wt. 16132.

VICTORIA.

Hovell, made their way overland from Sydney, and on their return gave a satisfactory report of the country, the result being that a convict settlement was soon afterward founded on Western Port Bay, which however was in a short time abandoned, apparently on economic grounds. The first permanent settlement was formed at Portland Bay by Mr. Edward Henty, from Van Diemen's Land, as Tasmania was then called, who landed on the 19th November 1834, and soon commenced to till the soil, run and breed stock, and carry on whaling operations. Others followed, but the absence of good land in the immediate vicinity of the port, and the openness of the bay which rendered it unsafe for shipping during the prevalence of certain winds, caused it to be considered an unsuitable site for a capital, which was eventually founded on Hobson's Bay, at the northern end of Port Phillip, by two parties: one led by John Batman, who landed on the 29th May 1835, and the other by John Pascoe Fawkner, whose party arrived at the site of Melbourne on the 28th August of the same year. Both these were from Van Diemen's Land, and they were soon followed by others from the same island, and from Sydney, who brought stock with them, and commenced to push their way into the interior. These were met by Major (afterwards Lieutenant-Colonel Sir) Thomas Mitchell, who, entering from New South Wales, and traversing a considerable portion of the, as yet, unknown territory,[1] was so struck with its wondrous capabilities that he named it "Australia Felix," a title the aptness of which a subsequent knowledge of the geniality of its climate, the excellence of its soil, and the then unsuspected richness of its mineral treasures has proved to be fully justified. The reports of Sir Thomas Mitchell and the success of the first settlers caused great excitement, not only in the Australian settlements, but in the mother country. Herds of sheep and cattle, driven overland from New South Wales, speedily occupied the best parts of the new territory. Every available craft capable of floating was put into requisition to bring passengers and stock from Van Diemen's Land, and after a time shiploads of immigrants began to arrive from the United Kingdom. Regular government was first established under Captain William Lonsdale, who, having been sent from Sydney to take charge of the district, landed on the 29th September 1836, and on the 2nd March of the following year Sir Richard Bourke, the governor of New South Wales, visited it, and named the metropolis Melbourne. Mr. Charles Joseph La Trobe arrived on the 30th September 1839, having been appointed to the principal official position in the settlement under the title of superintendent, which was changed to that of Lieutenant Governor, when, on the 1st July 1851, it was separated from New South Wales and erected into an independent Colony under the name of Victoria. Shortly afterwards rich deposits of gold were discovered, the fame of which soon spread through the world, and led to a great influx of population. After a time some discontent arose amongst the diggers, in consequence of the oppressive character of the mining regulations, which cul-

minated in riots, which occurred on the Ballarat goldfield towards the end of 1854. The disturbance was soon quelled with some bloodshed on both sides, and the grievances complained of were afterwards redressed. A new constitution giving responsible government to the Colony was proclaimed on the 23rd November 1855, and since then, although political struggles have been frequent, and party feeling has at times run high, this has had no permanent effect in setting class against class or in any way lessening the good feeling which exists between all sections of the community. At times commerce has been depressed, but this has soon revived, and the material prosperity the Colony has, upon the whole, enjoyed is perhaps without a parallel in any country.

Population, 1882.

3. The estimated population of Victoria at the end of 1882 was as follows:—

Population, 31st December, 1882.

Males - - - -	477,475
Females - - - -	428,750
Total - -	906,225

Increase of population, 1882.

4. According to the records of births and deaths, immigrants and emigrants, the apparent increase of population in 1882 was 23,993, viz., 13,253 males and 10,740 females. Of this increase, 13,113, consisting of 5,712 males and 7,401 females, resulted from excess of births over deaths, and the remainder, viz., 1,830, consisting of 7,541 males and 3,339 females, was due to excess of arrivals over departures.

Birthplaces, 1882.

5. The following table contains an estimate of the number of persons of different nationalities contained in the Victorian population during the year 1882:—

Birthplaces of the people of Victoria, 1882 (*estimated*).

Birthplace.	Mean Population.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.
Victoria - - - - -	256,499	258,871	515,370
Other Australasian Colonies - - -	19,800	21,347	41,147
England and Wales - - - -	88,522	63,802	152,324
Scotland - - - - -	27,174	22,556	49,730
Ireland - - - - -	42,720	46,809	89,529
Other British Possessions - - -	6,278	4,207	10,485
Germany - - - - -	6,367	2,497	8,864
The United States - - - -	1,705	718	2,423
China - - - - - -	12,169	58	12,227
Other Foreign Countries - - -	7,234	1,137	8,371
Total - - - -	468,468	422,002	890,470
Allegiance.			
British subjects - - - -	440,994	417,593	858,587
Foreign subjects - - - -	27,474	4,409	33,883

VICTORIA.

Victorians in other colonies.

6. The returns of the census of 1881 give a total of 539,000 Victorians distributed throughout Australasia, of whom 40,000 were living outside the boundaries of the Colony of their birth. These were spread over the different colonies as follow :—

Victorians in each Australasian Colony, 1881.

Colony in which resident.	Numbers born in Victoria.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.
Victoria - - - - -	247,528	251,671	499,199
New South Wales - - - -	14,328	10,678	25,006
Queensland - - - - -	1,876	1,273	3,149
South Australia - - - -	1,745	1,443	3,188
Western Australia - - -	133	87	220
Total - - - -	265,610	265,152	530,762
Tasmania - - - -	1,378	1,206	2,584
New Zealand - - - - -	2,929	2,830	5,759
Grand total - - -	269,917	269,188	539,105

Victorians in other colonies, natives of other colonies in Victoria.

7. The census returns show that the natives of other Australasian colonies resident in Victoria were about equal to the Victorians resident in the other Australasian colonies, the numbers respectively being 39,906 and 39,861. Victorian males, however, living out of the colony were more numerous than male natives of the other colonies living in Victoria, the reverse being the case as regards the females. The following are the figures :—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Victorians living in other Australasian colonies	22,389	17,517	39,906
Natives of other Australasian colonies living in Victoria - - - - -	19,108	20,753	39,861

Religions, 1882.

8. The next table contains a statement of persons of different religions in Victoria about the middle of 1882 :—

Religions of the People, 1882 (*estimated*).

Religious denominations.	Mean Population.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.
Church of England - - - -	170,483	150,970	321,453
Presbyterians - - - - -	71,245	65,665	136,910
Methodists - - - - -	59,457	59,326	118,783
Independents - - - - -	10,216	10,306	20,522
Baptists - - - - -	10,049	10,981	21,030
Other Protestants - - - -	11,901	7,942	19,843
Roman Catholics - - - -	104,292	105,778	210,070
Jews - - - - - -	2,483	1,989	4,472
Pagans - - - - -	11,525	38	11,563
Other sects - - - - -	16,817	9,007	25,824
Total - - - -	468,468	422,002	890,470

9. In the following table the ages of the people are given as estimated about the middle of 1882:— Ages, 1882.

Ages of the People, 1882 (*estimated*).

Ages.	Mean Population.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.
Under 5 years	59,942	57,972	117,914
5 to 10 „	56,831	56,019	112,850
10 to 15 „	56,299	55,466	111,765
15 to 20 „	51,237	52,656	103,893
20 to 25 „	42,064	44,564	86,628
25 to 30 „	28,478	27,762	56,240
30 to 35 „	23,452	22,582	46,034
35 to 40 „	24,283	22,188	46,471
40 to 45 „	26,888	21,853	48,741
45 to 50 „	29,382	19,995	49,377
50 to 55 „	27,397	15,734	43,131
55 to 60 „	16,546	9,379	25,925
60 to 65 „	12,482	7,208	19,690
65 to 70 „	6,379	3,911	10,290
70 to 75 „	3,820	2,596	6,416
75 to 80 „	1,846	1,250	3,096
80 to 85 „	882	639	1,521
85 years and upwards	260	228	488
Total	468,468	422,002	890,470

10. The occupations of the people of Victoria, as estimated about the middle of 1882, were as follow:— Occupations, 1882.

Occupations of the People, 1882 (*estimated*).

Occupations of the People.	Mean Population.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.
Ministering to government	4,882	251	5,133
„ religion	1,090	190	1,280
„ health	1,969	1,645	3,614
„ law	1,280	—	1,280
„ education	2,715	4,294	7,009
„ art, science, and literature	2,692	1,101	3,793
Traders	14,835	2,010	16,845
Assisting in exchange of money or commodities	6,870	678	7,548
Ministering to entertaining and clothing	15,211	27,807	43,018
Domestic servants	3,019	22,434	25,453
Contractors, artisans, and mechanics	47,487	1,087	48,574
Miners	36,507	5	36,512
Engaged in pursuits subsidiary to mining	858	3	861
„ pastoral pursuits and agriculture	79,775	42,513	122,288
„ pursuits subsidiary to grazing and agriculture	3,447	1,037	4,484

Occupations of the People.	Mean Population.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.
Engaged in land carriage	14,904	350	15,254
„ sea navigation	3,373	25	3,398
Dealing in food	14,360	1,788	16,148
Labourers	24,644	4	24,648
Engaged in miscellaneous pursuits	958	105	1,063
Of independent means	2,441	1,198	3,639
Wives, widows, children, relatives, scholars	171,969	308,228	480,197
Public burthen	6,509	3,724	10,233
Of no occupation, unspecified	6,673	1,525	8,198
Total	468,468	422,002	890,470

Urban and rural population.

11. The following is a division of the area of Victoria into three districts, also the estimated mean population of each district during 1882. The first of these districts (Greater Melbourne) is that comprised within a radius of ten miles from the centre of Melbourne;* the second, the space outside that limit embraced in cities, towns, and boroughs; and the third, the remainder of the Colony.

Urban and Rural Population, 1882.

Districts.	Estimated area in Square Miles.	Mean Population, 1882.		
		Total.	Proportions per cent.	Persons to the Square Mile.
Urban — Metropolitan	256	291,464	32·73	1,139
Urban — Extra-metropolitan	366	198,839	22·33	543
Extra-urban or rural	87,262	400,167	44·94	4·59
Total of Victoria	87,884	890,470	100·00	10·13

Urban and rural population, 1871 and 1881.

12. Between the censuses of 1871 and 1881 the population of Greater Melbourne increased by considerably more than a third, and that of the country districts by considerably more than a sixth, but the population of the extra-metropolitan towns fell off by a fortieth. The following is a statement of the population of these portions of the Colony at the two periods, and the

* Exclusive of water, which covers about 58 square miles of the area named.

numerical and centesimal increase or decrease which took place between them:— VICTORIA.

Urban and Rural Population, Censuses of 1871 *and* 1881.

Districts.	Enumerated Population.		Increase* in Ten Years.	
	1871.	1881.	Number.	Per cent.
Urban — Metropolitan	206,780	282,947	76,167	36·85
Urban — Extra Metropolitan.	194,293	189,583	– 4,710	– 2·48
Extra-Urban or Rural	330,455	389,816	59,361	17·96
Total of Victoria	731,528	862,346	130,818	17·88

* The minus sign (–) indicates decrease.

13. In 1811 the population of the metropolis was equal to nearly 33 per cent. of that of the whole Colony. This proportion has a tendency to increase, as will be observed by the following figures:— Increasing proportion of metropolitan population.

Proportion of Population of Melbourne and Suburbs to total Population of Victoria.

	Per Cent.
1861	25·89
1871	28·87
1881	32·81

14. When the census was taken, the total population on the Victorian goldfields was found to amount to 230,944, and the number of gold miners to 34,589. According to the estimate of the Mining Department the number of miners had increased to 36,890 at the end of 1882. Mining population.

Estimated Number of Gold Miners, 1882.

Alluvial miners	21,013	European miners	29,616
Quartz miners	15,877	Chinese miners	7,274
Total	36,890	Total	36,890

15. According to the same estimate, the Europeans engaged in quartz mining at the end of 1882 exceeded those engaged in alluvial mining by about 1,800, the numbers being 15,711 and 13,905 respectively. The Chinese seldom practise quartz mining, European and Chinese miners.

VICTORIA.

the numbers returned as engaged in that industry being only 166 as against 7,108 engaged in alluvial mining. It may be observed that the whole number of Chinese miners returned at the census was only 6,603.

Imperfections in immigration returns.

16. In the following paragraphs the immigration and emigration referred to is by sea only, the results given would probably be greatly modified if the overland traffic, of which no record exists, were to be taken into account, more especially since the facilities for overland intercourse with the neighbouring Colonies are being rapidly increased by the extension of railways. For many years past two lines have extended from Melbourne to the River Murray, and complete railway communication now exists between the capitals of Victoria and New South Wales; railways also run westward in this Colony to within 100 miles of the South Australian border—the journey being continued onwards by means of coaches. With such facilities as these, it is natural to suppose that many persons about to come to Victoria from, or leave it for, one of the adjacent Colonies would find it more convenient to take the land route rather than that by the seaboard. As time advances, there is little doubt that the records kept by the Immigration Department will less and less account for the actual immigration and emigration of the Colony.

Immigration returns insufficient for estimating population.

17. The insufficiency of the present returns of immigration and emigration to supply material for supplementing the returns of births and deaths, for the purpose of forming estimates of population between the census periods, has more than once been brought under the notice of the Government by myself; and I have suggested that steps should be taken to obtain a record of the arrivals and departures overland; but it seems that difficulties at present supposed to be insuperable stand in the way of taking note of such persons, and therefore there is no other alternative than to leave them out of account altogether. It is evident that, supposing the returns of those who come and go by the seaboard are correct, and the births and deaths are all registered, the population estimates must always understate or overstate the truth, according as the arrivals or the departures overland are the greater.

Immigration and emigration, 1882.

18. The arrivals and departures by sea,* recorded during 1882, also the excess of the former over the latter, were as follow:—

Immigration and Emigration, 1882.

—	Males.	Females.	Total.
Arrivals by sea - - -	41,218	18,186	59,404
Departures by sea - - -	33,677	14,847	48,524
Excess of arrivals - -	7,541	3,339	10,880

* All the figures relating to arrivals in the Colony and departures therefrom contain statements of those who come and go by sea only. No account is kept of those who cross the frontier from and to the adjacent Colonies

VICTORIA.

Arrivals and departures overstated in returns.

9. In consequence of the system pursued in keeping the records of immigration and emigration, the practice being to set down all who pass through Victorian ports on their way to other countries as arriving and departing from this Colony, the latter being situated between South Australia and Western Australia on the one hand, and New South Wales and Queensland on the other, seems always to have an unduly large number of persons coming in and leaving, whereby an impression is created that great numbers come to Victoria, but being dissatisfied with their prospects in that Colony betake themselves elsewhere. If all are recorded accurately, the result showing those who remain would be correct; still it is to be regretted that some means could not be found of keeping the account without including a number of persons who have had no connexion whatever with the Colony and perhaps may have never so much as even landed on its shores.

Gain by immigration, 1882, greater than 1881.

20. The records of arrivals show larger numbers for 1882 than for 1881 by 338, and the records of departures show smaller numbers for 1882 than for 1881 by 3,220; the apparent total gain by excess of immigration over emigration was therefore greater in the year under review than the previous one by 3,558.

Adults and children arriving and departing.

21. The immigration authorities do not specify the exact ages of the persons arriving and departing, but classify them as adults, or those from 12 years of age upwards; as children, or those between one year of age and 12 years; and as infants, or those under one year. The following are the numbers under each of those heads who came and went during 1882:—

Arrivals and Departures of Adults, Children, and Infants, 1882.

	Adults.	Children.	Infants.	Total.
Arrivals - - - -	53,577	5,253	574	59,404
Departures - - -	43,949	4,048	527	48,524
Immigration in excess -	9,628	1,205	47	10,880

Arrivals from and departures for different countries.

22. In consequence of the practice which exists of recording the ports of original departure and final destination of the ships as being also those of all the passengers, instead of noting the ports at which the respective passengers joined the vessel and those at which they stated their intention of leaving it, much doubt must exist as to the accuracy of the records showing the countries from which persons who arrived in the Colony came and to which those

VICTORIA.

who left it went. The returns, however, as furnished by the immigration authorities are given for what they may be worth:—

Arrivals from and Departures for different Countries, 1882.

Countries.	Arrivals therefrom.	Departures thereto.	Immigration in excess.	Emigration in excess.
New South Wales and Queensland	16,959	19,937	—	2,978
South and Western Australia -	11,811	8,882	2,929	—
Tasmania - - - -	10,793	7,338	3,455	—
New Zealand - - -	4,523	4,358	165	—
The United Kingdom - -	13,036	6,334	6,702	—
Foreign countries - - -	2,282	1,675	607	—
Total - - -	59,404	48,524	10,880*	—

* Net figures.

State-assisted immigration.

23. In the 12 years 1871 to 1882, 5,547 immigrants from the United Kingdom had free or partially free passages granted them to Victoria. Of these, 3,212, or 58 per cent., arrived in the first year, and 5,168, or 93 per cent., in the first three years of the decenniad. The number has declined rapidly from year to year, and since 1873 only 377 such immigrants have arrived. Of these, only 5, all females, came in 1880, not one in 1881, and only two in 1882, so that State-assisted immigration to this Colony may be said to have virtually ceased.

Revenue and Expenditure.

24. The year ended 30th June 1882 commenced with the large debit balance of 311,000*l.*; but as the revenue of the year exceeded the expenditure by 446,000*l.*, not only was the deficiency entirely wiped out, but a credit balance of 135,000*l.* remained at the close of the year. The following are the exact figures:—

Revenue and Expenditure, 1881–2.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Receipts - - -	5,592,361	13	7
Expenditure - - -	5,145,764	5	0
Receipts in excess of Expenditure - - -	446,597	8	7
Debit balance of 1880–1 -	311,285	1	2
Credit balance - -	135,312	7	5

VICTORIA.

Changes effected by legislation, &c.

25. No important changes affecting the sources of revenue were made during the year 1881–2. As a result, however, of excise duties on beer and tobacco, imposed in 1880–1, but only in force during eight months of that year, 79,500*l.* additional was collected under these heads; whilst a few alterations in the customs tariff during the last two financial years produced an estimated increase to the revenue of about 18,000*l.* A total increase of 97,500*l.* may thus be said to have resulted from the sources of revenue having been augmented by legislation. Moreover, the railways were extended by an average length of 51½ miles over and above the extent open for traffic in 1881–2, and if 1,371*l.* per mile be allowed for such extension, the extra revenue derived therefrom would be 70,600*l.* On the other hand, accidental or exceptional decreases occurred as follows:—3,800*l.* in the amount received from estates of deceased persons, and 8,400*l.* in that from the irregularly paid land tax, or 12,000*l.* in all. The revenue of 1881–2, as compared with that of the previous 12 months, is thus shown to have increased by 97,500*l.* as a result of fresh legislation, and by 70,600*l.* on account of the extension of railways, but to have decreased by 12,200*l.* in consequence of accidental causes, the net result being an increase of 155,900*l.* It may be mentioned that the only exceptional item of any importance which appeared in the revenue of 1880–1 was 6,400*l.*, being the premium derived from the sale of Treasury bonds.

Revenue 1881–2 and previous years.

26. The revenue of 1881–2 was by far the largest ever raised in Victoria. It exceeded the revenue of 1880–1, which was the year in which the largest revenue had previously been realized, by over 400,000*l.* as already stated, and exceeded the revenue of 1876–7, which was the year in which the next highest revenue had been realized by 868,500*l.*

Expenditure 1881–2 and former years.

27. The expenditure of 1881–2 was also greater than that of any previous year. Prior to 1853 the annual expenditure never exceeded one million sterling; from 1853 to 1872–3 it usually fluctuated between two and three millions; from 1873–4 to 1879–80 it was between four and four and three-quarter millions; and in the last two years it exceeded five millions. As compared with 1880–1, the increase in the total expenditure was only 37,122*l.*; whilst the expenditure proper (*i.e.*, excluding amounts to be recouped) increased by 41,939*l.*

Revenue and expenditure per head.

28. The revenue per head in 1881–2 was 6*l.* 7*s.* 1*d.* and the expenditure per head was 5*l.* 16*s.* 11*d.*; the former was greater by 6*s.* 6*d.*, but the latter was less by 1*s.* 11*d.* than in the previous year.

Heads of revenue.

29. The following are the heads of revenue in 1881–2, and the amounts received under each head. Recoups and other items which do not properly form part of the revenue proper have

been eliminated, and are added separately at the end of the table:—

Heads of Revenue, 1881–2.

Heads of Revenue.	Amounts received.	Heads of Revenue.	Amounts received.
	£		£
Customs - - -	1,694,652	Other public works -	4,035
Excise - - -	216,547	Post and telegraphs -	297,701
Ports and harbours (tonnage, &c.) - - -	26,263	Mint charges - -	10,918
Licence (business) - -	25,977	Mint subsidy returned -	5,344
Duties on estates of deceased persons - - -	74,368	Fines, fees, and forfeitures	120,768
Duties on bank-notes -	27,324	Rents (ordinary) - -	997
Stamp duty - - -	131,020	Reimbursements in aid -	33,675
Land tax - - -	121,555	Interest and exchange -	103,675
Land sales - - -	697,558	Miscellaneous receipts -	26,630
Rents of Crown lands -	126,268	Total revenue proper -	5,589,472
Penalties under Land Acts -	2,313	Recoups from loans and assets realised - -	2,890
Railways - - -	1,715,260		
Water supply - -	126,624	Grand total revenue -	5,592,362

Heads of expenditure.

30. The following are the heads of expenditure in 1881–2, and the amounts expended under each head. The expenditure of amounts subsequently to be recouped has been kept separate from the ordinary disbursements, and appears at the end of the table:—

Heads of Expenditure, 1881–82.

Heads of Expenditure.	Amounts expended.	Heads of Expenditure.	Amounts expended.
	£		£
Civil list* - - -	31,469	Post and telegraphs -	402,939
Legislature - - -	56,487	Customs - - -	63,330
Civil establishment† -	102,482	Harbours and lights -	25,471
Judicial and legal - -	158,182	Mining - - -	42,879
Police - - -	201,063	Mint - - -	20,000
Gaols and penal establishments - - -	53,032	Interest - - -	1,173,350
Defences - - -	79,442	Retiring allowances and pensions - -	57,789
Public instruction, science, &c.‡ - - -	597,160	Gratuities, compensation, &c. - - -	32,127
Charitable institutions, medical, &c.§ - - -	249,367	Aborigines - -	7,498
Crown lands and survey -	141,470	Miscellaneous services -	29,574
Railways - - -	829,103	Total expenditure proper -	5,142,164
Placed to loan, liquidation, and constructing account -	200,000	Amounts to be recouped from loans, &c. - -	3,600
Water supply - -	37,269	Grand total expenditure -	5,145,764
Public works (exclusive of railways and water supply)	550,681		

* Including Governor's salary, and salaries of Ministers, Commissioners of Audit, Agent-General, and expenses of the Executive Council.

† Including cost of the following departments:— Chief Secretary, Government Statist, Short-hand Writer, Audit Office, Registrar of Friendly Societies, Inspector of Stock, Treasury, Stores and Transport, and Government Printer.

‡ Including expenditure under the following heads:—Education; Observatory; Government Botanist; Public Library, Museums, and National Gallery; Grants to Mechanics' Institutes, Free Libraries, &c.; and Grants to School of Mines and Design.

§ Including expenditure under the following heads:—Chief Medical Officer; Central Board of Health; Hospitals for Insane; Industrial and Reformatory Schools and Grants to Charitable Institutions.

Taxation.

31. The amounts of which the revenue is made up are of two classes, viz., those raised by taxation and those raised otherwise. The former class consisted in 1881–2 of customs and excise duties, wharfage rates, port and harbour dues, business licenses, duties on bank notes, duties on estates of deceased persons, a land tax, and stamp duties. The latter class comprised amounts derived from the sale or occupation of Crown lands, from railways, water supply, and other public works, from post and telegraph offices, from fees, fines, and forfeitures, from the labour of prisoners, from the interest on the public account, &c.

The following figures show the result of a division of the Victorian revenue upon this principle:—

Taxation, 1881–2.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Revenue raised by taxation -	2,317,705	19	7
„ otherwise -	3,274,655	14	0
Total - -	5,592,361	13	7

Taxation per head.

32. From these figures it may be ascertained that over 41 per cent. of the total revenue in 1881–2 was raised by taxation; and if the amount so raised be divided by the estimated mean population of the financial year, viz., 880,280, an average will be obtained of 2*l.* 12*s.* 8*d.* to each individual.

Heads of taxation, 1882.

33. The following is a statement of the amounts received under the various heads of taxation during 1882.

Heads of Taxation, 1882.

Heads of Taxation.	Amounts received.	Heads of Taxation.	Amounts received.
	£		£
Customs duties - -	1,667,316	Duties on estates of deceased	
Wharfage rates - -	27,346	persons - - -	74,368
Ports and harbours - -	26,263	Duties on bank notes -	27,324
Excise:—		Land tax - - -	121,555
Spirits - - -	52,620	Stamp duty - -	131,020
Beer - - -	98,955		
Tobacco - - -	64,972	Total - -	2,317,706
Licences (not territorial) -	25,977		

Customs Revenue to total taxation.

34. The greater portion of the general Government taxation is derived from Customs duties. The promotion from that source had been gradually decreasing from 89 per cent. in 1874–5, 87 per cent. in 1875–6, 86 per cent. in 1876–7, 81 per cent. in 1877–8, to 78 per cent. in 1878–9, and although it rose in 1879–80 to 80 per cent., it again fell to as low as 72 per cent. in the last two

years. The revenue derived from Customs duties during 1881–82 was equivalent to a charge of 9½ per cent. on the total value of imports.

Duty on bank notes.

35. The tax on bank notes was imposed under the Act 39 Vict., No. 526, which came into operation on the 1st January 1876. It is at the rate of 2*l.* on every 100*l.* of the average amount of notes circulated by any bank between the 1st July and the 30th June of each financial year.

Land tax.

36. The Act for imposing a land tax (41 Vict., No. 575) came into operation on the 28th August 1877. It provides that all estates over 640 acres in extent, valued at upwards of 2,500*l.*, whether consisting of one block or several blocks of land not more than five miles apart, shall be taxed at the rate of one and a quarter per cent. upon their capital value, after deducting therefrom the sum of 2,500*l.*; only one exemption, however, being allowed in the case of a proprietor holding more than one estate. For the purpose of ascertaining the capital value, the estates in question are divided into four classes, the value being estimated according to the number of sheep they are able to carry, as follows:—

		Value per Acre. £
Class I.,	carrying 2 or more sheep per acre	4
Class II.,	„ 3 sheep to 2 acres	3
Class III.,	„ 1 sheep per acre	2
Class IV.,	„ under 1 sheep per acre	1

Stamp duties.

37. Stamp duties were first imposed during the year 1879–80, under Act 43 Vict., No. 645, which came into force on the 18th December 1879. The following, in a condensed form, are the particulars of the duties levied thereunder, together with a list of the chief exemptions:—

STAMP DUTIES.

I.—Bills of Exchange and Promissory Notes.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Bills of exchange, payable on demand, cheques, &c., each	0	0	1
All other kinds (except bank notes)—			
For every 25*l.*, or fraction thereof of the total value up to 100*l.*	0	0	6
For every additional 50*l.*, or fraction thereof	0	1	0

The maximum duty chargeable on any bill of exchange or promissory note, whatever be its amount or value, to be 10*l.*

II.—Receipts.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Receipts or discharges for payment of 5*l.* or upwards, each - - - - -	0	0	1

III.—Conveyance on Sale of any Real Property, Applications, Consents, and Transfers under Transfer of Land Statute.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
For every 50*l.* of consideration or fraction thereof after deducting the first 50*l.* - - -	0	5	0

IV.—Annual Licence.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Fire, fidelity guarantee, or marine assurance or insurance company— For every 100*l.* of premiums received or fraction thereof, a licence fee per annum of - -	1	10	0

Exemptions.

Class I.—Cheques drawn on public accounts, or on those of a registered building or friendly society; drafts or instruments affecting the transmission of public moneys; drafts, orders, &c. of post office or other savings banks; and Government or municipal debentures.

Class II.—Receipts for moneys paid to or from public accounts for municipal rates, for deposits in banks in current account, or for moneys paid into a charitable institution, a registered friendly society, a fire, life, fidelity guarantee, or marine insurance (or assurance) company, or into a post office or other savings bank.

Class III.—Crown grants; instruments for conveyance of property to the Crown or a public department, to a registered friendly society, or to a religious, charitable or educational association; and marriage settlements.

Class IV.—Any private guarantee fidelity insurance scheme promoted amongst and sustained solely for the benefit of the officers and servants of any one particular public department, company, firm, or person, or of the officers or members of a registered friendly society.

38. The following table gives a statement of the revenue and expenditure of municipalities in the year 1882, the amounts raised

Municipal revenue and expenditure.

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and expended in cities, towns, and boroughs being shown separately from those in shires:—

Municipal Revenue and Expenditure, 1882.

	Cities, Towns, and Boroughs.	Shires.	Total.
REVENUE.	£	£	£
From Government { Endowment	53,174	353,831	407,005
From Government { Other receipts	15,604	34,751	50,355
„ rates	219,647	202,386	422,033
„ licenses	65,807	28,924	94,731
„ registration of dogs and goats	5,218	5,743	10,961
„ market dues	37,696	392	38,088
„ other sources	61,635	26,442	88,077
Total	458,781	652,469	1,111,250
EXPENDITURE.*			
Public works	250,763	456,452	707,215
Salaries, &c.	47,202	67,968	115,170
Other expenditure	146,055	71,956	218,011
Total	444,020	596,376	1,040,396

* Including expenditure of proceeds of loans.

Public debt.

39. The public debt of Victoria amounted on the 31st December 1882 to 22,103,202*l.*, equal to 24*l.* 7*s.* 10*d.* per head of the population.

Interest on debt per head.

40. The interest and expenses of the public debt of Victoria amounted in 1881–82 to 1,124,136*l.*, being in the proportion of 1*l.* 5*s.* 6*d.* per head of population, and equal to about a fifth of the total expenditure.

Summary of retiring allowances.

41. The following is a summary of the pensions and superannuation allowances, of all descriptions, payable out of the general revenue of Victoria during the year 1881–82:—

Summary of Pensions and Retiring Allowances, 1881–82.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Former Ministers of the Crown	1,800	0	0
Lady Darling and Mrs. Petrie†	1,100	0	0
Former judges of County Courts	2,250	0	0
„ Surveyor-General	314	10	4
„ officers of the Civil Service	32,463	4	7
„ „ Lunacy Department	262	19	9
Former police	7,000	0	0‡
Allowances voted by Parliament	11,039	10	11
Total	56,230	5	7

† Lady Darling is the widow of a late Governor of Victoria, and Mrs. Petrie is a daughter of the late Captain Flinders, R.N., an eminent explorer of the Australian coasts.

‡ These figures represent the amount payable from the general revenue, which consist of the usual endowment of 2,000*l.* and an additional amount of 5,000*l.* which was voted by Parliament.

Abolition of pensions.

42. Retiring allowances, pensions, and gratuities to officers to be thereafter appointed in the public service were abolished on the 24th December 1881 by Act 45 Vict. No. 710. Judges of the Supreme Court, officers and members of the police force, and persons then employed in the public service, were specially exempted from the operation of the Act.

Naturalization.

43. In 1882, 357 persons were naturalized in Victoria; of these 317 were natives of China, 19 of Germany, 3 of Russia, 2 of Austria, 1 of France, 1 of Belgium, 1 of Holland, 1 of Italy, and 12 of other countries.

Chinese naturalized.

44. The Chinese naturalized in 1882 were more than three times as numerous as the whole number naturalized during the previous eleven years, in which only 91 Chinese were naturalized. This enormous increase is doubtless in consequence of the restrictions imposed under the Chinese Act, 1881 (45 Vict. No. 723), which provides that all Chinese who are not naturalized or natural born subjects of Her Majesty shall, on entering the colony, be subjected to an immigration tax, and shall be disfranchised as regards both municipal and parliamentary elections.

Municipalities.

45. Municipal districts in Victoria are of two kinds, urban and rural. The former, the area of which ought not to exceed 9 square miles, and which must, when first proclaimed, contain at least 300 inhabited householders, are designated, according to their gross revenues, cities, towns, or boroughs. The latter are called shires. Both these bodies are regulated under the Local Government Act, 1874 (38 Vict. No. 506), and are called municipalities. Each municipality is a body corporate, with perpetual succession and a common seal, and is capable of suing and being sued, and of purchasing, holding, and alienating land, &c.

Number of municipalities.

46. The cities, towns, and boroughs in Victoria numbered 57 in 1881 and 58 in 1882, and the shires 117 in the former and 119 in the latter year.

Area of municipalities.

47. The total area included in the two descriptions of municipalities is as follows:—

Area embraced in Municipalities, 1882.

	Square miles.
Cities, towns, and boroughs - - -	340
Shires - - - -	82,807
Total - -	83,147

Proportion to total area of Victoria.

48. The estimated area of Victoria is 87,884 square miles. It thus appears that all but about one-nineteenth of this area is included within the limits of municipal districts.

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Population of municipalities.

49. The population of the two kinds of districts was as follows in 1882:—

Population of Municipalities, 1882.

Cities, towns, and boroughs - -	444,386
Shires - - - -	452,199
Total - -	896,585

Proportion to population of Victoria.

50. It has been already stated that the estimated population of Victoria at the end of 1882 was 906,224. It therefore follows that 99 out of every 100 inhabitants of the Colony enjoy the advantages of local self-government.

Ratepayers in municipalities.

51. The ratepayers in the two kinds of municipal districts numbered as follow in 1882:—

Ratepayers in Municipalities, 1882.

Cities, towns, and boroughs - -	96,782
Shires - - - -	103,069
Total - -	199,851

Proportion of ratepayers to population.

52. By comparing these figures with those showing the enumerated municipal population, it appears that about one person in every 4·5 persons living in municipalities is a ratepayer.

Dwellings in municipalities.

53. The following is a statement of the number of dwellings in the two kinds of municipal districts in 1882:—

Dwelling in Municipalities, 1882.

Cities, towns, and boroughs - -	95,238
Shires - - - -	94,619
Total - -	189,857

Proportion of dwellings in municipalities.

54. The dwellings in the whole Colony were returned at the census of 1881 as 179,816. All of these, except 1,121, were situated in municipal districts.

Ratings of municipalities.

55. In 1882, 136 of the municipalities were rated at one shilling in the pound, 6 were rated under and 35 over that amount.

Value of rateable property.

56. The annual value of rateable property in municipalities was as follows in 1882:—

Annual Value of rateable Property, 1882.

	£
Cities, towns, and boroughs - -	3,364,037
Shires - - - -	4,069,775
Total - -	7,433,812

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57. During the eight years ended with 1882 the total increase in the annual valuation of rateable property has amounted to 1,438,335*l.*, viz., 507,555*l.* in cities, towns, and boroughs, and to 930,780*l.* in shires. Increase in eight years.

58. The persons who were taken in charge by the Victorian police in 1882 were as follow:— Arrests, 1882.

Persons arrested, 1882.

Number of Persons.	1882.
Taken into custody	26,423
Discharged by magistrates	8,746
Summarily convicted or held to bail	17,061
Committed for trial	616

59. A statement of the offences for which arrests were made in 1882, together with the numbers arrested for each offence, will be found in the following table:— Causes of arrest.

Causes of Arrest, 1882.

Offence.	1882.
Murder and attempt at murder	22
Manslaughter	11
Shooting at or wounding with intent to do bodily harm	81
Assault	1,913
Rape and indecent assault on females	66
Unnatural offence, and assault with intent to commit	9
Other offences against the person	124
Robbery with violence, burglary, &c.	206
Horse, sheep, and cattle stealing, &c.	219
Other offences against property	3,401
Forgery and offences against the currency	63
Drunkenness	11,749
Other offences against good order	6,709
Offences relating to carrying out laws	303
Smuggling and other offences against the revenue	41
Offences against public welfare	1,506
Total	26,423

60. The following table shows the birthplaces and religions of the persons taken into custody and of those committed for trial in Birthplaces and religions of criminals.

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1882, also the ratio of those of each country and sect to the numbers of the same country and sect in the population :—

Birthplaces and Religions of Persons arrested and committed for Trial, 1882.

Birthplace and Religion.	Persons arrested.		Persons committed for trial.	
	Number.	Proportion per 1,000 in the Population.	Number.	Proportion per 1,000 in the Population.
Birthplace.				
Victoria* - - - -	6,674	12·95	226	·40
Other Australian colonies* -	1,349	32·78	50	1·22
Australian aborigines - -	52	—	5	—
England and Wales - -	6,648	43·64	127	·83
Scotland - - - -	2,322	46·69	39	·78
Ireland - - - -	7,449	83·20	89	·99
China - - - -	221	18·07	9	·74
Other countries - - -	1,708	—	71	—
Total - -	26,423	29·67	616	·69
Religion.				
Protestants - - -	14,471	22·66	363	·57
Roman Catholics - - -	11,280	53·70	223	1·06
Jews - - - -	99	22·14	1	·22
Pagans - - - -	226	19·55	8	·69
Others - - - -	347	—	21	—

* Exclusive of aborigines.

Relative numbers of each birthplace.

61. It is always found that fewer Victorians are arrested and fewer committed for trial in proportion to their numbers in the population than persons of any other nationality. This is, no doubt, mainly due to the fact of a very large proportion of children being embraced within their numbers. With the increasing ages of the Victorian-born population, however, the number arrested is increasing. In 1872 only 2,312 persons of Victorian birth were taken into custody, whereas in the year under review the number had risen to 6,674. The country which supplies the largest number of arrested persons is Ireland. In 1882 those arrested of this nationality exceeded the English and Welsh arrested by 801, and this although natives of England and Wales in the population outnumbered the Irish by 62,795, or 70 per cent. Moreover, the offences with which the Irish were charged must have been of a more serious nature than those in respect to which the members of any other nationality were arrested, except natives of Australasian colonies outside Victoria, as, with this exception, the number of the former committed for trial was, in

proportion to population, higher than that of persons of any other birthplace. Porportionately to the numbers in the population, the Scotch arrested were slightly above the English, but those committed for trial were below any other, except Victorians and Chinese. The Chinese arrested and committed for trial were below persons of any other nationality except Victorians. Arrest of natives of other Australasian colonies were, in proportion to their numbers, the least numerous after those of Chinese and Victorians, but their commitments were more numerous than those of persons of any other nationality.

Relative numbers of each religion.

62. In proportion to their numbers in the community, the Roman Catholics supplied nearly two and a half times as many arrested persons as the Protestants or Jews, and about two and three quarter times as many as the Pagans. In view of a similar proportion, the Roman Catholics committed for trial were nearly twice as numerous as the Protestants, nearly five times as numerous as the Jews, and more than one and a half times as numerous as the Pagans.

Results of commitments for trial.

63. The results of the commitments for trial in 1882 already referred to were as follow :—

Results of Commitments for Trial, 1882.

	1882.
Number for trial	718*
Convicted and sentenced	402
Acquitted	184
Not prosecuted	76
Awaiting trial	56

* These figures include 102 who were remaining for trial from the previous year.

Land forces.

64. The land forces of Victoria consist of a paid artillery corps and the various volunteer corps, embracing the cavalry, artillery, engineer, rifle, and torpedo and signal arms of the service.

The following table shows the designation, strength, and establishment of the various corps on the 31st December 1882 :—

Land Forces, 1882.

Branch of Service.	Strength.
Victorian artillery† (paid)	124
Volunteers, cavalry	230
„ artillery	1,029
„ engineers	139
„ torpedo corps	53
„ rifles	1,373
Staff, &c.	87
Total	3,035

† This corps was disbanded in 1880, and re-established in 1882.

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Naval forces.

65. The strength of the naval forces at the end of 1882 was as follows:—

Naval Forces, 1882.

Ship or Corps.	Strength.
H.M. Volunteer naval forces - - - - -	146
Naval reserve - - - - - - -	219
Electricians - - - - - - - -	7
Total - - - -	372

Expenditure on defences, 1881–2.

66. The following table shows the expenditure on military and naval defences during 1881–2. The expenditure under the heads "Volunteer Force" and "Naval Reserve" gives an average cost per man per annum in each division respectively as 4*l.* 18*s.* 1*d.* and 17*l.* 1*s.* 8*d.*:—

Military and Naval Expenditure, 1881–2.

	£	£
Military Expenditure.		
Staff, salaries - - - - - -	—	3,684
Artillery corps, salaries (arrears) - - -	50	—
„ contingencies - - - - -	—	—
		50
Volunteer force, effective allowance - - -	8,018	—
„ pay of instructors, &c. - -	4,549	—
„ horse allowance for mounting officers	775	—
„ purchase of helmets - - -	2,475	—
		15,817
In aid of Victorian Rifle Association - - -	—	1,000
Repair of war material, &c. - - - -	—	3,604
Expenses for engineering - - - -	—	94
Warlike stores and tents - - - -	—	3,218
Ammunition for volunteers - - - -	—	600
Railway transport - - - - -	—	5,500
Camp of instruction, 1882 - - -	—	1,992
Military buildings, roads, &c. - - - -	1,058	—
Defence works - - - -	22,972	—
		24,030
Total - - - - -	—	59,589
Naval Expenditure.		
Naval forces, salaries and wages - - -	12,658	—
„ contingencies - - - -	4,057	—
		16,715
Naval reserve, salaries and wages - - -	2,695	—
„ contingencies - - - -	1,149	—
		3,844
Electricians, salaries and wages - - -	146	—
„ contingencies - - - -	71	—
		217
New boiler for *Cerberus* - - - -	—	1,069
Total - - - - -	—	21,845
Total expenditure on defences - -	—	81,434

These calculations have been reckoned from the strength on the 31st December 1881, viz., 3,225 volunteers and 225 naval reserve.

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Marriages, births, and deaths.

67. The marriages celebrated during 1882 numbered 6,309, or 7·08 per 1,000 of the population. The marriage rate had for several years past been declining in Victoria, viz., from over 8 per 1,000 prior to 1863 to less than 6 per 1,000 in 1879. Since then, however, the rate has been gradually recovering itself, and was higher in 1882 than in any year since 1868. The decline referred to, however, had not resulted from any disinclination to marry on the part of either sex, or from inability to support a family, but from the number of single men at marriageable ages being abnormally small in proportion to the total population. This has arisen from the fact that at the time immigrants flocked to the Colony in the early days of the gold discoveries these consisted to a very large extent of adults without a corresponding proportion of younger persons, so that when immigration became very much reduced there was an insufficient youthful class growing up to supply the places of those adults who had married, died, or left the Colony. In proportion to the marriageable men living, the number marrying has been, of recent years, as great as it was at any period of the Colony's history. Births in 1882 numbered 26,747, or 30·04 per 1,000 of the population. Owing chiefly to the same causes as those which have affected the marriage rate, the birth-rate is not so high as formerly. Deaths in 1882 numbered 13,634, or 15·31 per 1,000 of the population. This is not a high proportion, especially for a country where the number of persons at the adult or strongest period of life is below the average. Seventeen deaths per 1,000 persons living has been held by high authority to be a natural rate of mortality in countries where adults and children exist in their normal proportions, but few countries can boast of so low a rate. The births in 1882 exceeded the deaths by 13,113 or 96 per cent.

Banks.

68. There are 12 banks of issue in Victoria, with 386 branches within the Colony. According to the sworn returns of these institutions, their note circulation during the last quarter of 1882 was 1,448,953*l.*, and their total liabilities 25,496,305*l.* as against which the coin and bullion on hand amounted to 3,207,733*l.*, and the total assets to 31,248,586*l.* At the same date the capital stock paid up was 9,432,250*l.*, and the amount of reserved profits was 2,913,070*l.* The last dividend declared amounted to 482,050*l.*, or at an average rate of 9 per cent. per annum.

Savings banks.

69. Two kinds of savings banks exist in Victoria, the ordinary savings banks, which were established in 1842, and the Post Office savings banks, which were established in 1865. Of the former there are 13, and of the latter 209. According to the returns for 1882, the number of depositors in the two institutions was, 122,584, who had to their credit 3,121,246*l.*, or an average of 25*l.* 9*s.* 3*d.*, to each depositor. The highest rate of interest savings banks are permitted to give on moneys left on deposit is 4 per cent. The full rate is paid by both kinds of institutions.

Imports and exports.

70. In 1882 the declared value of goods imported into Victoria was 18,748,081*l.*, and that of goods exported therefrom was 16,193,579*l.* The excess of imports over exports was thus

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2,554,502*l.*, and the total value of external trade was 34,941,660*l.* per head of the population; the average value of the imports was 21*l.* 0*s.* 1*d.*, and that of the exports was 18*l.* 3*s.* 8*d.* The following are the principal articles imported and exported during the year:—

Imports, 1882.

	£
Apparel and slops	313,699
Bags and sacks (including woolpacks)	318,617
Beer, cider, and perry	207,830
Books	199,784
Boots and shoes	121,818
Butter and cheese	26,053
Candles	39,903
Carpeting and druggeting	88,463
Coal	341,666
Coffee	50,442
Cottons	1,048,306
Cutlery	26,501
Drapery	—
Drugs	84,365
Earthenware, brownware, chinaware, and porcelain	114,654
Fancy goods	68,641
Fish	131,672
Flour (including biscuit)	16,176
Fruit (including currants and raisins)	204,150
Furniture and upholstery	76,990
Glass and glass ware	116,839
Gloves	90,145
Gold (exclusive of specie)	677,075
Specie, gold	82,587
,, other	69,424
Grain, oats	58,171
,, wheat	18,805
,, other	175,370
Haberdashery	337,812
Hardware and ironmongery	169,374
Hats caps, and bonnets	129,164
Hides, skins, and pelts	110,568
Hops	57,866
Hosiery	134,955
Iron and steel	761,084
Jewellery	75,021
Leather, leather ware, and leather cloth	151,645
Linen, piece goods	31,817
Live stock	794,486
Machinery	151,401
Matches and vestas	43,724
Meats (fresh, preserved, and salted)	12,599

	£
Millinery	—
Musical instruments	115,292
Nails and screws	63,960
Oil of all kinds	183,553
Oilmen's stores	15,957
Opium	77,089
Paints and colours	79,636
Paper (including paper bags)	214,341
Silks	258,709
Spirits	397,210
Stationery	92,653
Sugar and molasses	1,315,402
Tea	745,226
Timber	715,420
Tobacco, cigars, and snuff	252,215
Tools and utensils	56,150
Watches, clocks, and watchmakers' materials	84,776
Wine	152,531
Wool	2,734,738
Woollens and woollen piece goods	924,905
Other articles	2,538,656
Total imports	18,748,081

Exports, 1882.

Antimony ore, regulus, &c.	12,072
Apparel and slops	334,688
Bark	23,845
Bones and bone dust	14,822
Books	80,934
Boots and shoes	73,037
Butter and cheese	113,852
Candles	10,847
Coffee	25,578
Copper ore, regulus, &c.	2,854
Drapery	—
Flour and biscuit	339,458
Gold (exclusive of specie)	1,497,116
Specie, gold	2,208,221
„ silver	8,007
Grain, oats,	28,550
„ wheat	627,029
„ other (including malt and rice)	175,390
Hardware and ironmongery	63,849
Hay, straw, and chaff	146,199
Hides	6,838
Horns and hoofs	2,586
Leather, leather ware, and leathern cloth	361,309

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	£
Live stock - - -	609,761
Machinery - - - -	168,613
Meats, fresh and preserved - -	93,966
„ salted (bacon, beef, hams, and pork)	35,742
Oil of all kinds - - - -	60,968
Potatoes - - - -	110,544
Skins and pelts - - - -	129,267
Soap - - - - -	15,747
Spirits - - - - -	110,734
Stationery - - - -	44,039
Sugar and molasses - - -	278,564
Tallow - - - - -	189,304
Tea - - - - -	331,916
Tin, tin ore, and black sand - -	5,405
Tobacco, cigars, and snuff - -	156,009
Wine - - - - -	53,319
Wool - - - - -	5,902,624
Woollens and woollen piece goods -	109,042
Other articles - - -	1,630,934
Total exports - -	16,193,579

Shipping.

71. The vessels entered and cleared at Victorian ports in 1882 numbered 4,168, of an aggregate burden of 2,690,884 tons, and carried 110,669 men. The tonnage was in excess of that in any former year, but the number of vessels and of men had been slightly exceeded in some years. Nearly two thirds of the vessels, embracing more than two thirds of the tonnage and carrying five sixths of the men, were steamers.

Post offices.

72. A very efficient postal system exists in Victoria, and post offices are established throughout the length and breadth of the Colony ; 1,218 of such institutions existed in 1882 as against 948 five years previously. In the same quinquennial period the letters, newspapers, and packets despatched and received in a year increased from 33,200,000 to 46,200,000.

Money orders.

73. Money order offices in Victoria in connexion with the Post Office had been established in 312 places up to the end of 1882. Besides the issue and payment of money orders at these places, such orders are issued in favour of Victoria and Victorian orders are paid at places in Great Britain and Ireland, and in the various Australasian colonies, also in the United States, Germany, India, and the Cape of Good Hope. The number of money orders issued during the year was 172,812 of an aggregate value of 483,055*l.*, and the number paid was 194,586 of an aggregate value of 559,980*l.* The number and value of orders issued in favour of the United Kingdom are always much greater than the number and value of those received therefrom ; but the reverse is the case with orders between Victoria and the neighbouring colonies. The net amount remitted to the United Kingdom

by this means has, however, been gradually falling off, whilst the net amount received from the neighbouring colonies has been fast increasing.

Electric telegraphs.

74. Telegraphic communication exists in Victoria between 336 stations within her own borders. Her lines are connected, besides, with the lines of New South Wales, and by means of them with Queensland and New Zealand. They are also connected with the lines of South Australia, and by their means with Western Australia and with the eastern Archipelago, Asia, Europe, and America. They are likewise united with a submarine cable to Tasmania. In 1882 the miles of line along which poles extended numbered 3,493, and the miles of wire 6,922; the telegrams transmitted numbered 1,418,769, of which 410,127 were on Government business. A considerable extension of the lines, as well as an increase of business, takes place each year.

Railways.

75. All the railways in Victoria are the property of the State. At the end of 1882, 1,355 miles were open for traffic, 187 miles of which were laid with double lines. The cost of construction, inclusive of preliminary surveys, rolling stock, and building a bridge over the Murray to connect with the New South Wales lines, was 19,746,915*l.*, or an average of about 14,500*l.* per mile. About 5,000,000 miles were travelled during the year. The total receipts amounted to 1,781,078*l.*, and the working expenses to 1,098,599*l.* The railway system is being rapidly extended.

Public estate.

76. Of the total area of Victoria, already stated to be 56,245,760 acres, the extent which at the end of 1882 had been granted, sold, and selected was 20,425,842 acres, leaving a residue of 35,819,918 acres. This embraces lands occupied by roads, the unsold portions of the sites of towns, the State forests, auriferous, pastoral, and timber reserves, and land which is at present useless, owing to its mountainous character or to its being covered with mallee scrub, lakes, or lagoons. Deducting these lands, amounting in the aggregate to 27,733,352 acres, from the extent unalienated and unselected, already stated to have been 35,819,918 acres, it will be found that the extent open for selection at the end of 1882 was 8,086,566 acres, or about a seventh of the area of the Colony.

Crown lands sold.

77. The land alienated in fee simple during 1882 was 442,009 acres, and the amount realized therefor was 598,079*l.*, or at the rate of 1*l.* 7*s.* 1*d.* per acre. The total extent alienated in fee simple from the first settlement of the Colony to the end of the same year was 13,056,499 acres, for which 20,780,859*l.* was received by the State, or at the rate of 1*l.* 11*s.* 10*d.* per acre.

Agriculture.

78. The extent of land in cultivation at the end of the first quarter of the current year was 2,040,916 acres, and the number of cultivators was 33,952. The five principal crops are wheat, which covered 969,362 acres; oats, 169,892 acres; barley, 43,721 acres; potatoes, 34,267 acres; and hay, 309,382 acres. In addition to these, green forage and permanent artificial grasses covered 290,438 acres, vines covered 5,732 acres, and gardens and orchards occupied an extent of 19,725 acres. The other crops were maize, rye, pease, and beans, mangel wurzel, turnips, beet, carrots, parsnips, onions, and other vegetables, chicory, grass for seed, hops, and tobacco. The produce of wheat was 8,751,454

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bushels, or 9 bushels to the acre; that of oats was 4,446,027 bushels, or 26 bushels to the acre; that of barley was 758,477 bushels, or 17 bushels to the acre; that of potatoes was 129,605 tons, or 3¾ tons to the acre; and that of hay was 327,385 tons, or 1 ton to the acre. The area under tillage has doubled, and that under wheat has nearly trebled during the last ten years.

Live stock.

79. The live stock in the Colony, according to the returns of 1882, amounted to 280,874 horses, 330,192 milch cows, 956,896 other horned cattle, 10,174,246 sheep, and 237,917 pigs. The numbers of horses, cattle, and pigs have increased considerably during the last ten years, but there has been a slight falling off in the number of sheep.

Manufactures.

80. Statistics of manufactures and works in operation are collected by means of the staff employed by the municipal bodies to collect statistics of agriculture. The collectors are instructed to obtain returns only from establishments of an extensive character, except when the existence of industries of an unusual or interesting character seems to call for special comment. No attempt is made to enumerate mere shops, although some manufacturing industry may be carried on thereat. Were this done, the manufactories of the Colony might be multiplied to an almost indefinite extent. There were in 1882–3 143 flour-mills in the Colony, which during the year operated upon 6,397,738 bushels of wheat and 626,116 bushels of other grain; 78 breweries, in which 13,594,214 gallons of beer were brewed; 195 brickyards, some being also potteries, which made over 95,000,000 bricks, and pottery valued at 77,000*l.*; 166 tanneries and fellmongeries, which operated upon 3,743,000 hides and skins; 9 woollen mills, which used 2,035,000 lbs. of wool, and produced 1,055,000 yards of tweed, cloth, and flannel, and 6,000 blankets; 31 soap and candle works, which produced nearly 136,000 cwt. of soap and over 62,000 cwt. of candles; 14 tobacco manufactories, which manufactured 1,345,000 lbs. of tobacco, 6,263,000 cigars, and 2,600 lbs. of snuff; 105 establishments working in books or stationery; 7 in musical instruments; 10 in prints and pictures; 25 in carving and figures; 4 in designs, medals, and dies; 5 in philosophical instruments; 4 in surgical instruments; 12 in arms and ammunition; 127 in machines, tools and instruments; 212 in carriages and harness; 20 in ships and boats; 25 in houses, buildings, &c.; 80 in furniture; 27 in chemicals; 213 in dress; 14 in fibrous materials; 47 in animal food; 44 in vegetable food; 19 in coal (gasworks); 54 in stone, clay, earthenware, and glass; 3 in water (ice making); 30 in gold, silver, and precious stones; and 147 in metals other than gold and silver. The total number of these establishments is 2,612, of which 1,193 use steam or gas engines, the total horse power of which is 16,107. They employ 45,698 hands, and the approximate total value of lands, buildings, machinery, and plant is 8,519,496*l.*

Gold.

81. The gold raised in Victoria during 1882 amounted to 894,487 ounces as against 858,850 ounces in the previous year. Since the first discovery of the Victorian goldfields, in the middle of 1851, the total quantity of gold recorded as having been raised

therefrom is 51,400,054 ounces, of an aggregate value at 4*l.* per ounce of 205,600,216*l.* These figures give an average per annum during the period of about 1,600,000 ounces, which is nearly twice the quantity raised in 1882.

Friendly societies.

82. Friendly societies in Victoria have for years past been much patronised by the industrial classes, many of whom have derived great benefit from their connexion therewith. So far as their relations with the State are concerned, they are under the supervision of the Government Statist and Registrar; and there are also public auditors and valuers. Thirty-two parent institutions, having 776 branches and 51,399 members, furnished returns to the Government Statist for 1882. The number of members who died was 606, and the number of wives who died was 277, the funeral donations paid on account of which deaths amounted to 12,996*l.* The total income during the year was 194,835*l.*, and the total expenditure was 165,788*l.* The amount to the credit of the funds at the end of the year, after deducting debts, was 501,587*l.*, or an average of 9*l.* 15*s.* 2*d.* to each member.

Clergy.

83. There being no state religion in Victoria, and no money voted for any religious object, the clergy are supported by the efforts of the denomination to which they belong. The total number of registered clergy is 773, of whom 174 belong to the Church of England, 104 to the Roman Catholic Church, 170 to the Presbyterian Church, 152 to the Methodist Churches, 48 to the Independent Church, 52 to the Baptist Church, 23 to the Bible Christian Church, 44 to other Christian Churches, and 6 to the Jewish Church. Besides these, there are other officials connected with some of the sects, who without being regularly ordained, perform the functions of clergyman, and are styled lay readers, lay assistants, local preachers, mission agents, &c. The number of these is not known, but it no doubt materially swells the ranks of religious instructors in the Colony.

Churches and chapels.

84. The buildings used for public worship throughout Victoria in 1882 numbered 3,478, of which 1,857 were regular churches and chapels, 500 school houses, and 1,121 public or private buildings. The approximate number of services performed during the year was 300,800; the number of persons for whom accommodation was provided was 449,950; and the number usually attending at the principal weekly services was 309,600. Of the whole number of buildings used for religious worship, 672 belonged to the Church of England, 524 to the Roman Catholics, 853 to the Presbyterians, 1,145 to the Methodists, 86 to the Independents, 80 to the Baptists, 103 to other Christians, 6 to the Jews, and 1 to other sects.

Charitable institutions.

85. There is no poor law in Victoria, but a very complete organisation exists for the relief of the sick, the infirm, and the necessitous, by means of the many excellent charitable institutions which are scattered throughout the length and breadth of the Colony. These establishments are for the most part subsidized by the State, and many of them are also largely contributed to by private persons. There are 35 general hospitals, besides a lying-in

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hospital, an eye and ear hospital, and a children's hospital; there is also a blind asylum, a deaf and dumb asylum, and an immigrants home. There are five benevolent asylums, seven orphan asylums, one infant asylum, six industrial and reformatory schools, five hospitals for the insane, and five female refuges. These institutions had in all 27,472 inmates during 1881; their total receipts were 270,282*l.*, of which 188,740*l.* was from the Government, and their expenditure was 264,721*l.* There are 41 other associations for the relief of distressed or indigent persons, which are generally managed by ladies. These are termed benevolent societies, the names of three of them indicate their connexion with the Jewish body, but no distinctive denomination is perceptible in the titles of the others. The acts of relief during the year numbered 9,388, the receipts amounted to 13,065*l.*, of which 4,820*l.* was from Government, and the expenditure was 12,891*l.*

University.

86. The Melbourne University was established under a special Act of the Victorian Legislature, which was assented to on the 22nd January 1853. This Act, as amended by an Act passed in 1881, provides for its endowment by the payment of 9,000*l.* annually out of the general revenue; also, that no religious test shall be administered to any one to entitle him to be admitted to the rights and privileges of the institution; also, for the election by the Senate of a council consisting of 20 members, of whom not more than three may be members of the teaching staff, and for the election by them out of their own body of a chancellor and a vice-chancellor; also, for the constitution of a Senate, consisting of all male persons who have been admitted to the degree of master or doctor, and for the election by them annually of one of their body as warden as soon as the superior degrees should amount to not less than 100. This number was reached in 1867, and the senate was constituted on the 14th June of that year. The council are empowered to grant in any faculty, except divinity, any degree, diploma, certificate, or license which can be conferred in any university in the British dominions. Royal letters patent under the sign-manual of Her Majesty Queen Victoria were issued on the 14th March 1859, declaring that all degrees granted, or thereafter to be granted by the Melbourne University should be recognised as academic distinctions and rewards of merit, and should be entitled to rank, precedence, and consideration in the United Kingdom and in British colonies and possessions just as fully as if they had been granted by any university in the United Kingdom. The foundation stone was laid on the 3rd July 1854. On the 22nd March 1880 the university was thrown open to females, and they can now be admitted to all its corporate privileges, except the study of medicine. Affiliated to the university is a college in connexion with the Church of England, and one in connexion with the Presbyterian Church. The latter is called the Ormond College after Mr. Francis Ormond, who contributed nearly 25,000*l.* towards its erection and endowment. The university hall, built at a cost of about 40,000*l.*, is called the Wilson Hall, after Sir Samuel

Wilson, who contributed the greater portion of the funds for its erection. From the opening of the university to the end of 1882, 1,783 students matriculated and 790 degrees were granted, of which 550 were direct and 240 *ad eundem*. The students who matriculated in 1882 numbered 135, and the graduates in the same year numbered 80. VICTORIA.

87. The educational system of Victoria, the basis of which is that secular instruction shall be provided by the State, without payment, for all children whose parents may be willing to accept it, but that, whether accepted or not, satisfactory evidence must be produced that all children are educated up to a given standard, has been most successful in its operation; and, for securing the object sought to be obtained, it is believed compares favorably with the system of any other country in the world. In 1872, just before the present system came into operation, the number of children returned as attending school was 137,978, whilst in 1882, after the system had been in force for ten years, the number had increased to 221,833, or over 61 per cent., although during the same period the population of the Colony had increased only 18 per cent. It was officially estimated by the Government Statist that in 1881 all the children in Victoria between the ages of 6 and 15 (the school age), except about 3½ per cent., were receiving education during some portion of the year. It has also been estimated that the children attending school for not less than 30 days in a quarter amounted to about 74 per cent. of the numbers on the rolls, a proportion of efficient school attendance which, it is believed, has been attained in but few countries. Education.

88. The following table contains a statement of the average rate of wages paid in Melbourne in 1883. The rates of wages in country districts are generally somewhat higher than those in the metropolis. Throughout Victoria the recognized working day for artizans and general labourers is eight hours:— Wages.

Wages in Melbourne.

Description of Labour.	1883.
Agricultural Labour.	
Farm labourers - - - - per week, with rations	15*s.* to 20*s.*
Ploughmen - - - - - „ „	15*s.* to 25*s.*
Reapers* - - - - - per acre, „	10*s.* to 15*s.*
Mowers* - - - - - - - per acre	3*s.* 6*d.* to 9*s.*
Threshers* - - - - - - per bushel	5*d.* to 6*d.*
Pastoral Labour.	
Shepherds - - - - per annum, with rations	30*l.* to 40*l.*
Stock-keepers - - - - - „ „	40*l.* to 60*l.*
Hut-keepers - - - - - „ „	25*l.* to 40*l.*
Generally useful men on stations - - per week, „	15*s.* to 22*s.* 6*d.*
Sheep-washers - - - - - „ „	15*s.* to 25*s.*
Shearers - - - per 100 sheep sheared, „	12*s.* to 15*s.*

* The reaping, mowing, and threshing has of late years been to a large extent done by machinery.

Description of Labour.		1883.
Artizan Labour.		
Masons	per day, without rations	10*s.* to 12*s.*
Plasterers	„ „	„
Bricklayers	„ „	„
Carpenters	„ „	„
Blacksmiths	„ „	10*s.* to 13*s.*
Servants—Males and Married Couples.		
Married couples, without families	per annum, with board and lodging	70*l.* to 90*l.*
Married couples, with families	„ „	40*l.* to 50*l.*
Men cooks, on farms and stations	„ „	50*l.*
Grooms	„ „	30*l.* to 40*l.*
Gardeners	per week, „	15*s.* to 30*s.*
Servants—Females.		
Cooks	per annum, with board and lodging	35*l.* to 60*l.*
Laundresses	„ „	35*l.* to 40*l.*
General servants	„ „	30*l.* to 38*l.*
Housemaids	„ „	25*l.* to 35*l.*
Nursemaids	„ „	20*l.* to 30*l.*
Miscellaneous Labour.		
General labourers	per day, without rations	6*s.* to 7*s.*
Stonebreakers	per cubic yard, „	2*s.* to 3*s.*
Seamen	per month, with rations	4*l.* 10*s.* to 6*l.*
Miners	per week, without rations	2*l.* to 2*l.* 10*s.*

Prices.

89. Prices in Melbourne were quoted as follows in the same year. In country districts the cost of groceries, tobacco, wine, coal, &c. is naturally higher, and that of agricultural and grazing produce, firewood, &c. naturally lower, than in Melbourne:—

Prices in Melbourne.

Articles.		1883.
Agricultural Produce.		
Wheat	per bushel	4*s.* 9*d.* to 5*s.* 6*d.*
Barley	„	4*s.* 3*d.* to 6*s.*
Oats	„	2*s.* 6*d.* to 4*s.*
Maize	„	4*s.* 1*d.* to 6*s.*
Bran	„	1*s.* 2*d.* to 1*s.* 3*d.*
Hay	per ton	3*l.* 10*s.* to 6*l.*
Flour, first quality	„	10*l.* 5*s.* to 11*l.* 10*s.*
Bread	per 4 lb. loaf	6*d.* to 7*d.*
Grazing Produce.		
Horses:—		
Draught	each	24*l.* to 50*l.*
Saddle and harness	„	8*l.* to 42*l.*
Cattle:—		
Fat	„	4*l.* 10*s.* to 13*l.* 5*s.*
Milch cows	„	5*l.* to 10*l.*
Sheep, fat	„	6*s.* to 19*s.*
Lambs, fat	„	4*s.* to 12*s.*

Articles.		1883.
Butchers meat:—		
Beef, retail	per lb.	2*d.* to 7*d.*
Mutton	„	2*d.* to 5*d.*
Veal	„	5*d.* to 6*d.*
Pork	„	6*d.* to 9*d.*
Lamb	per quarter	2*s.* to 3*s.*
Dairy Produce.		
Butter, colonial, retail	per lb.	9½*d.* to 1*s.* 8*d.*
Cheese, colonial	„	6*d.* to 1*s.*
Milk	per quart	4*d.* to 6*d.*
Farm-Yard Produce.		
Geese	per couple	6*s.* to 10*s.*
Ducks	„	4*s.* to 6*s.*
Fowls	„	3*s.* to 5*s.* 6*d.*
Rabbits	„	6*d.* to 1*s.*
Pigeons	„	1*s.* 6*d.* to 2*s.* 6*d.*
Turkeys	each	4*s.* to 12*s.* 6*d.*
Sucking pigs	„	10*s.* to 14*s.*
Bacon	per lb.	7½*d.* to 10*d.*
Ham	„	8*d.* to 11*d.*
Eggs	per doz.	1*s.* 3*d.* to 2*s.* 6*d.*
Garden Produce.		
Potatoes	per cwt.	3*s.* 6*d.* to 6*s.*
Onions, dried	„	5*s.* to 6*s.*
Carrots	per doz. bunches	6*d.* to 1*s.*
Turnips	„ „	3*d.* to 1*s.*
Radishes	„ „	4*d.* to 6*d.*
Cabbages	per doz.	6*d.* to 4s.
Cauliflowers	„	1*s.* to 6*s.*
Lettuces	„	3*d.* to 1*s.*
Green pease	per lb.	1*d.* to 4*d.*
Miscellaneous Articles.		
Tea (duty paid)	per lb.	8*d.* to 3*s.*
Coffee „	„	7*d.* to 10*d.*
Sugar „	per ton	27*l.* to 48*l.*
Rice	„	15*l.* to 27*l.*
Tobacco (in bond)	per lb.	1*s.* 1*d.* to 2*s.* 4*d.*
Soap, colonial	per ton	18*l.* to 30*l.*
Candles, sperm, stearine, paraffine, &c.	per lb.	8¼*d.* to 10*d.*
Salt	per ton	3*l.* to 6*l.*
Coals	„	28*s.* to 34*s.*
Firewood	„	9*s.* to 12*s.*
Wines, Spirits, &c.		
Ale (duty paid)	per hhd.	8*l.* to 8*l.* 10*s.*
„ „	per doz.	8*s.* 6*d.* to 11*s.*
Porter (duty paid)	per hhd.	7*l.* 5*s.* to 8*l.*
„ „	per doz.	9*s.* to 10*s.* 6*d.*
Brandy (in bond)	per gal.	6*s.* 3*d.* to 15*s.*
Rum „	„	3*s.* 6*d.* to 4*s.* 3*d.*
Whiskey „	„	4*s.* to 15*s.*
Hollands „	„	3*s.* to 4*s.* 6*d.*
Port wine (in bond)	per pipe	21*l.* to 120*l.*
Sherry „	per butt	20*l.* to 135*l.*
„ (duty paid)	per doz.	1*l.* to 5*l.* 10*s.*
Claret	„	15*s.* to 85*s.*
Champagne	„	25*s.* to 95*s.*

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90. For complete information on many points which have been merely touched upon, and on others which are not even mentioned in this digest, the reader is referred to the "Victorian Year Book,* 1882–3."

(Signed) HENRY HEYLYN HAYTER.

* This is an official publication by the Government Statist, published annually, and may be obtained from the Government printer, Melbourne, the Agent General of Victoria, 8, Victoria Chambers, Westminster, or George Robertson, 17, Warwick Square, London.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY of VICTORIA from 1880 to 1882 inclusive.*

Year.	Population on 31st December.			Births.	Deaths.	Marriages.	Immigration (by sea).	Emigration (by sea).	General Revenue.	General Expenditure.	Crown Land Sales.		Land in Cultivation.	Live Stock.				Postage.		
	Persons.	Males.	Females.								Area sold.	Amount realised.		Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.	No. of Post Offices.	Number of Letters.	No. of Newspapers.
									£	£	Acres.	£	Acres.							
1880	860,067	451,456	408,611	26,148	11,652	5,286	56,955	45,294	4,621,282	4,875,029	409,738	471,824	1,997,943	275,516	1,286,267	10,360,285	241,936	1,100	24,195,149	10,640,540
1881	882,232	464,222	418,010	27,145	12,302	5,896	59,066	51,744	5,186,011	5,108,642	458,636	574,382	1,821,719	278,195	1,286,677	10,267,265	239,926	1,158	26,308,347	11,440,732
1882	906,225	477,475	428,750	26,747	13,634	6,309	59,404	48,524	5,592,362	5,145,764	441,433	598,079	2,040,916	280,874	1,287,088	10,174,246	237,917	1,218	28,877,977	12,383,928

Continued.

Year.	Shipping.				Vessels built.		Vessels registered.		Mortgages and Liens.		Imports.	Imports of		Exports.	Exports of -							
	Inwards.		Outwards.									Breadstuffs (Wheat, Flour, Bread, and Biscuits).			Wool.		Tallow.		Hides and Skins.	Breadstuffs (Wheat, Flour Bread, and Biscuit).	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Amount secured.	Total Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Total Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Value.	Quantity.†	Value.
										£	£	Bushels.	£	£	lbs.	£	lbs.	£	£	Bush.	£
1880	2,076	1,078,885	2,115	1,101,014	4	205	18	7,828	10,722	5,615,401	14,556,894	155,345	33,061	15,954,559	112,486,058	6,417,453	15,097,600	192,394	98,092	3,734,078	886,980
1881	2,125	1,219,231	2,123	1,192,671	9	698	28	7,138	10,636	6,672,733	16,718,521	157,334	26,464	16,252,103	103,449,080	5,450,029	19,765,760	247,372	114,903	4,050,308	930,640
1882	2,089	1,349,093	2,079	1,341,791	7	362	34	7,970	9,416	6,985,689	18,748,081	135,858	34,981	16,193,579	108,028,601	5,902,574	13,722,240	189,304	136,105	3,457,390	966,487

* The Statistical Summary for several previous years will be found printed at pages 70–71 of [C.-3642] of June 1883, pages 53 and 54 of [C.-3218] of May 1882, and pages 75 and 76 of [C.-2829] of March 1881.

† The quantities of flour, bread, and biscuit imported and exported are reduced to their equivalent in bushels on the assumption that one bushel of wheat produces 45 lbs. of either of those articles.

Statistical Summary of Victoria from 1880 to 1882 inclusive—*continued.*

Year.	Gold raised.		Public Debt on Dec. 31.	Government Expenditure on					Railways.			Electric Telegraphs.			Banks of Issue.			
	Estimated Quantity.	Value at 4*l.* per oz.		Railways.	Roads and Bridges.	Melbourne Water Supply (Yan Yean).	Other Water-works.	Other Public Works.	Miles opened.	Train Miles travelled.	Total Receipts.	Number of Stations.	Number of Miles of Wire.	Number of Telegrams.	Number of Banks.	Paid-up Capital.	Assets.	Liabilities.
	oz.	£	£	£	£	£	£	£			£					£	£	£
1880	829,121	3,316,484	22,060,749	1,988,916*	24,945	47,094	84,413	383,751	1,199	4,380,802	1,492,917	284	6,019	1,160,912	11	9,126,250	23,284,822	19,488,512
1881	858,850	3,435,400	22,426,502	782,134	31,631	39,929	40,267	317,352	1,247	4,633,267	1,665,209	302	6,626	1,281,749	11	9,143,122	27,173,809	22,902,017
1882	894,487	3,577,948	22,103,202	1,387,711	53,017	46,924	120,244	265,836	1,355	5,069,389	1,781,078	336	6,922	1,418,769	12	9,432,250	31,248,586	25,496,305

Continued.

Year.	Savings Banks.			Friendly Societies.		Cities, Towns, and Boroughs.			Shires and Road Districts.			Flour Mills.	Manufactories, Works, &c. (exclusive of Flour Mills).	Mining Machines.	Churches and Chapels.	Schools, (public and private.)		Melbourne University.		Number of Persons.			
	Number of Savings Banks.	Number of Depositors.	Amount of Balances.	Number of Branches.	Average Number of Members.	Number.	Total Value of Rateable Property.	Revenue.	Number.	Total Value of Rateable Property.	Revenue.					Number of Schools.	Number of Scholars on the Rolls.	Number of Matriculated Students.	Number of Direct Graduates.	Taken into Custody.	Committed for Trial.	Convicted after Commitment.	Executed.
			£				£	£		£	£												
1880	202	92,114	1,661,409	748	46,074	57	31,199,483	416,765	117	52,647,936	405,187	144	2,324	4,282	3,307	2,453	257,857	151	49	23,983	680	398	1
1881	212	107,282	2,569,438	759	48,060	57	32,308,794	457,462	117	55,333,665	557,498	138	2,350	4,415	3,456	2,402	265,485	172	55	25,346	591	332	1
1882	222	122,584	3,121,246	776	51,399	58	34,559,353	458,781	117	57,233,194	652,459	143	2,469	4,149	3,478	2,417	257,388	135	73	26,423	616	402	-

* Including purchase money of the late Melbourne and Hobson's Bay Company's lines.

(Signed) HENRY HEYLYN HAYTER, Government Statist.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

No. 2.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY, Western Australia, to Governor F. NAPIER BROOME, C.M.G.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Perth,
January 24, 1884.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith, for your Excellency's information, a report on the Blue Book of Western Australia for the year 1882.

I have, &c.
(Signed) MALCOLM FRASER.

His Excellency
F. Napier Broome, Esq., C.M.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

REPORT on BLUE BOOK for 1882.

1. *Taxes and Duties.*

By statute the Customs tariff was altered, and the revenue from that source increased by the duties being advanced on certain imports, and by the statute repealing the Stamp Act of previous year; amendments were made in the schedules, also beneficial to the revenue of the Colony.

2. *Revenue.*

That received from all sources, including Imperial grant of 9,250*l.*, was 250,372*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*

The estimated revenue was 200,565*l.* Although the total receipts for 1881 were greater, being 254,313*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.*, 48,107*l.* 15*s.* 9*d.* of that amount was money recouped from loan on account of the Eucla Telegraph, so really the revenue of 1882 exceeded that of previous year by 44,166*l.* 14*s.* 9*d.*, and was 49,807*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* beyond the estimate. The increase was on nearly every item.

On the other hand, the decrease was really very trifling. Excepting on Transfer duties (consequent on operation of Stamp Act, the stamp receipts showing a large increase) and sale of Government property. But if these, and the amount recouped

from loan in 1881 for construction of Eucla Telegraph, and refunds, which are mere matters of account, are separated from the items on which a decrease of revenue is shown, there only remains then to notice a decrease of 41*l.* 18*s.* 9*d.* on the following items:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Duty on horses exported -	12	5	0
Contributions under Scab Act -	3	2	6
Special Revenue, North District -	26	11	3
	41	18	9

On all other items there is, as shown, an increase.

3. *Expenditure.*

The expenditure was 205,451*l.* 6*s.* 2*d.*, being 8,075*l.* 1*s.* 3*d.* over 1881, but on the two items alone, of works and buildings, roads and bridges, 10,437*l.* 13*s.* 9*d.*, was spent more than in previous year. The estimates of expenditure were:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
On the original appropriations -	191,261	4	7
By supplementary appropriations	11,658	11	10
together -	202,919	15	5
The overcharges were subsequently authorised by 47 Vict. Ch. I, confirming expenditure in excess to the amount of -	6,938	5	4
	207,158	0	9

Under drafts on certain items account for the difference between total expended and that appropriated by Acts of Council.

4. *Public Debt.*

The debt of the Colony was 511,000*l.* in 1882, the last loan, authorised in 1881, for 150,000*l.* being for extension of Eastern Railway, and repayment to revenue of cost of construction of Eucla Telegraph.

5. *Military Establishment.*

Expenditure on account of volunteers during the year was 2,125*l.* The expenditure under this head from Imperial funds had previously ceased, by the enrolled force being disbanded.

6. *Legislation.*

The following Acts and Amendments were passed during the session :—

An Act to provide for the more effectual keeping and auditing of the public accounts.

2. An Act for the re-appropriation of certain monies appropriated for the purchase of a steam tug by "The Loan Act, 1878."
3. An Act to prevent the destruction and export of immature sandalwood.
4. An Act to provide for the payment of certain additional and unforeseen expenditure in the year 1882 over and above the estimates for that year.
5. An Act for imposing duties on imported goods and for exemption of certain goods from duties.
6. An Act to repeal "The Stamp Act, 1881," and to re-enact the provisions thereof with amendments.
7. An Act to consolidate and amend the laws relating to trespasses by live stock and the poundage thereof, and to consolidate the laws relating to the construction of fences.
8. An Act for the better regulation of and maintenance of discipline in the Government Poor Houses.
9. An Act to amend "the Customs Ordinance, 1860."
10. An Act to repeal the present law relating to pedlers and hawkers, and to substitute other provisions in lieu thereof.
11. An Act to amend an Act passed in the 6th year of Her Majesty, No. 5, intituled "An Act to provide a summary "remedy in certain cases of Breach of Contract."
12. An Act to amend the "The Jury Act, 1871."
13. An Act to amend "The Bills of Sale Act, 1879."
14. An Act to make the winning of money by cheating at cards, or at other games, a criminal offence.
15. An Act to amend and consolidate the laws for preventing and exterminating the scab in sheep.
16. An Act to authorise the further extension of the Eastern Railway.
17. An Act to amend "The Railways Act, 1878."
18. An Act to amend "The Brands Act, 1881."
19. An Act to further amend "The Municipal Institutions Act, 1876."
20. An Act to amend "The Industrial Schools Act, 1874."
21. An Act to provide for the registration of certain persons who shall be imported into Western Australia or employed in any manner within the territorial dominion thereof.

22. An Act for raising the sum of two hundred and fifty four thousand pounds by loan for the construction of certain public works.
23. An Act to appropriate the sum of one hundred and eighty six thousand two hundred and four pounds and eight pence out of the general revenue of the Colony for such services as shall come in course of payment during the year 1883.

Acts Reserved.

An Act to increase the number of members to serve in the Legislative Council.

An Act to confirm the expenditure for the services of the year 1881 beyond the grants for that year.

An Act to provide for the more effectual control of all monies raised by loan for Public Works purpose.

7. *Population.*

Population at close of 1881 was estimated at 30,013. Population at close of 1882 was estimated at 30,766, showing an apparent increase for the year of 753.

The gain by births over deaths was 659, and by arrivals over departures 94.

8. *Imports.*

The value of goods imported was 508,755*l.* 2*s.* 3*d.*, showing an increase of 103,923*l.* 15*s.* 3*d.* over those of 1881, shown as 404,831*l.* 7*s.*

9. *Exports.*

The value of Colonial produce and manufactured goods exported in 1882 was estimated at 580,765*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* In 1881 the estimated value was 498,633*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* Many of the heads show a large increase, which is a satisfactory evidence of the general progress of the Colony.

10. *Shipping.*

The vessels entered inwards during 1882, comprising both sailing and steam, total 202 in number, with a tonnage of 172,698 gross. An increase of 17 in number and 27,650 in tonnage over 1881.

11. *Education.*

The number of government schools open in 1882 was 75, with 2,894 scholars on the books, at a cost to the Colony of 3*l.* 5*s.* 2½*d.* a head for the year, being an increase of three schools with 143 more scholars and with 99 quarter average attendance over 1881, when the cost was 3*l.* 8*s.* 4½*d.* for the year.

The assisted schools numbered 18, with 1,157 scholars on their books. The average attendance being 939, at an annual cost of 1*l.* 10*s.* 0*d.* for the year.

There was a decrease of 96 scholars on the books, and an average attendance which shows a decrease of 35 since 1881, in which year each scholar cost 1*l.* 13*s.* 2½.

12. *Agricultural.*

The cultivated ground in 1882 was accepted as 56,691 acres (including 14,083 in fallow). In the previous year there were 67,436 acres (including 14,000 acres in fallow), so the year does not show as well as the preceding one in farming undertakings, and in stock and sheep a slight decrease is shown.

In 1881, there were 1,267,912 sheep, 31,755 horses, and 63,009 cattle. In 1882, there were 1,259,797 sheep, 31,325 horses, and 65,473 cattle. Cattle showing the only increase. This is to be accounted for by the year being a very dry one.

13. *Public Works.*

The Northern Railway, from Geraldton to Northampton, 34¾ miles in length, was open for traffic all the year, and, also the Eastern Railway, 20 miles in length, from Fremantle as far as Guildford. The second section of 21½ miles which goes to Chidlow's Well is under construction by Government.

The private lines belonging to West Australian Timber Company, 16¾ miles from Lockville to timber stations, and the Rockingham Timber Company's line from Rockingham to Jarrahdale, 24 miles, were open for timber conveyance and traffic all the year.

14. *Roads and Bridges.*

The roads were in the hands of the district boards and municipalities for repair and up-keep throughout, and towards this, 7,000*l.* was contributed from the revenue in 1882.

15. *Telegraphs.*

There was no extension of the system during the year; the distances for which lines are open total 1,584 miles.

16. *Manufactories, Mines, and Fisheries.*

There was not much change for the better in the two first items. In regard to Fisheries there was an improvement.

The lead ore exported was 1,793 tons, valued at 14,348*l.*, Pearls valued at 17,500*l.*, and Pearl shells of different qualities valued at 37,170*l.* The Mother of Pearl shells being 247½ tons, 34,650*l.* The Sharks Bay shells, 336 tons, 2,520*l.*

17. *Convict Establishments.*

At the close of 1882, 371 was the total number of convicts, including probation and reconvicted prisoners, ticket of leave holders, conditional release holders, and lunatics.

In 1881, the total was 423.

18. *Public Health.*

The year 1882 is reported, as regards the public health, to have been characterised by an absence of zymotic disease, particularly that arising from miasma; there was no epidemic, saving the usual visit of influenza towards the close of the year.

The working of the Vaccination Act appears to have been satisfactory in the centres of population, but there are, no doubt, cases in the outlying districts where its provisions have not been carried out.

The sanitary condition of the towns of the Colony is generally bad. No drainage existing, and the water supply derived mainly from wells, which must, in thickly peopled parts, be contaminated by their proximity to cesspits and other receptacles of filth. The habits of the poorer classes in towns being such as to leave the salubrity of the climate standing almost unsupported in arresting dire diseases which the practices of the people would seem to court.

19. *Criminal Statistics.*

Although the number of offences brought to trial and number of convictions in 1882 show a decrease on previous years, there was an increase in the number of very serious offences; amongst them, murder, cases of drunkeness show a decrease, but disorderly conduct cases increased, also offences under Masters' and Servants' Act, and Wines, Beer, and Spirits Sales Act, as well as sheep stealing by aboriginals.

20. *Conclusion.*

In 1882, there was a marked step made in the occupation and settlement for pastoral purposes of the northern portions of the territory, indeed, of the whole of the Colony north of Murchison river.

The general and social status of colonists has improved, and the result of the year's work may be taken altogether as satisfactory indication of prosperity and progress.

The growing want of the Colony is more inhabitants of a useful class, and the introduction of sufficient capital to enable their labour to be satisfactorily utilised.

(Signed) MALCOLM FRASER,
Colonial Secretary.

January 24, 1884.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

No. 3.

Governor F. NAPIER BROOME, C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY.

Government Cottage, Rottnest Island,
January 28, 1884.

MY LORD,

IN a previous Despatch I reported my return to Perth from the southern part of the Colony, after previous tours through the northern and eastern districts. I will now record the impressions of Western Australia and its people produced upon me by these journeys.

2. With an exact itinerary, or indeed with any particular account of my two months' travel, I need not trouble your Lordship. The annexed map* is marked with my routes, which, including some detours on horseback not shown, amounted in all to just 2,000 miles. I proceeded by sea from Fremantle to Champion Bay, but otherwise my journeys were by land, and, except as above mentioned, on wheels. I travelled at the most favoured season, September to December, our spring and early summer. At this time of year the weather, though latterly getting warm, is fine without being unduly hot; the "bush flowers," for which Western Australia is famed, are at their full beauty; and the long day's drive through the forest, in the light air and bright sun, is delicious and exhilarating. The roads, too, were in their best order. On the whole, and even including the stretches of heavy sand which occurs too frequently, and which, until macadamised at great expense, compel slow travelling and a light load, I should call Western Australia a country of good roads, of roads much better than those of some much wealthier Colonies. Except the Darling range and some other inequalities rather than hills, the whole country is a plain, and swamps and marshes such as I remember in New Zealand are scarcely ever met with. In penetrating the forest the impediment is the timber, and not the nature of the ground. A track is easily cleared through the trees, and when this has been done a light vehicle can generally proceed at a good pace.

3. I was surprised by the extent to which many miles of "sand plain" in the different districts had been improved for traffic purposes by a macadamised roadway; and I found, I may say everywhere, very good bridges, not only where a bridge was absolutely necessary, but across streams and gullies such as were not wont to be rendered easy for the settler at the public expense in my New Zealand days 20 years ago. For its made roads

* Not printed.

WESTERN AUSTRALA.

and bridges and for many other facilities and advantages beyond the ordinary means of a small and scattered community, the Colony is to a great degree indebted to special circumstances. Not the least of these are its forests, which cover nine tenths of the whole country, and which supply excellent timber frequently close at hand ready to be used. But the forest trees would never have been turned into so many good bridges, or so many sand tracks into good roads, but for the energetic application of a vast amount of Imperial convict labour by Mr. Hampton and other Governors. Since the cessation of this the work has been continued by the road loan of 50,000*l.* raised in 1878, and by the district road boards established in 1871. In the year 1870, Mr. (now Sir Frederick) Weld made a series of journeys almost identical with those I have just completed, and his impressions of the country are contained in his very interesting Despatch of the 3rd of March of that year,* a portion of which forms the printed notice of Western Australia in the Colonial Office List. Sir Frederick Weld travelled, I believe, entirely on horseback; and I imagine that, thanks to the loan and the exertions of the road boards, many of the roads over which it would have been tedious to drive 13 years ago are now easy for wheeled vehicles.

4. The forests of Western Australia are of great variety, ranging from scrub and thicket, or the small "jam" wood of the Champion Bay districts, to the gigantic "karri," most beautiful of Eucalypti, the aristocracy of the forest, whose clean, straight, cream-coloured trunks, smooth to the hand, spring a hundred feet to the first branch. I visited the timber mills of Bunbury, Busselton, and Hamelin Harbour. From what I could gather, the timber industry, though prosecuted with enterprise and ability and assisted by valuable concessions from the Government, has not hitherto prospered. The karri saw mills at Hamelin Harbour appear a flourishing concern, and are stated to be worked to advantage by their owner, a South Australian capitalist. But of the five or six other enterprises of the sort I did not hear a good financial account. There may have been from the first a want of the requisite capital or of the requisite experience. Of one thing there is no doubt, namely, of the existence of excellent timber to the value of millions sterling. The demand for this must become more pressing throughout Australia and elsewhere as time goes on, and must tend to place the industry more and more on a paying basis. I have just authorised the Western Australian Timber Company, established at Lockville, near Brusselton, to transfer its concessions to another body of shareholders, with a larger capital, and I trust that by this, and by similar or other steps, our splendid wood may be brought to a profitable market in increasing quantity. I was glad to hear, at one mill, of an extensive order for railway sleepers from the New Zealand Government, and, at another, of a contract with the Admiralty to supply a large number of karri piles, 60 and 70 feet in length, for a pier at Hong Kong.

* Not printed.

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5. The causes of the backward condition of the Colony, as compared with the rich and prosperous eastern states of this continent, are not far to seek. Inferior soil, poisonous plants, the denseness of the forests, and the deficiency or absence of water, are the chief reasons why the population of Western Australia, and the profits of agricultural and pastoral pursuits in its immense territory, have never been, and never can be, what they are in such favoured countries as New Zealand or Victoria; other causes there are, but these are quite enough, and they were under my eye, more or less, during my whole journey.

6. The season had been exceptionally favourable, and the crops at the Greenough Flats and about Dongara, and at some parts of the York District, were especially good. I timed my visits to the different towns to the dates of their annual agricultural shows. Some fine stock was exhibited, but only a very small quantity of it. These provincial shows appear to be more the occasion of an annual holiday and collection together of settlers, than agricultural competitions in which the whole countryside takes an earnest part.

The Western Australian Agricultural Society, the central organisation of this character, holds its annual show at Guildford. I was present at it, and found there a large and representative gathering of stock and of spectators, and altogether a most interesting and well-organised exhibition, very creditable to the Colony. I attended the usual dinner, and enclose a copy* of a report of my speech in reply to my health.

7. It did not strike me that there was anywhere an unlimited quantity of agricultural land available for further immigration and settlement. Still, I saw a good deal; not a great extent in one place, except perhaps between York and Northam, but tracts here and there, and, whatever may be its deficiencies and drawbacks, there can be no sort of doubt that Western Australia has room in it, and stuff in it, to sustain a population many times larger than the 30,000 people now scattered thinly about its territory. In this vast Colony, the occurrence of good patches of agricultural soil at intervals means, in the aggregate, farm land sufficient for thousands of families.

8. From the statistics, and from the appearance of the farms, I could see that the cultivation of the soil pure and simple, and especially wheat raising, had not been profitable, and that the farmers were more and more turning their attention to the breeding of stock, using green crops and other agriculture as an accessory. I think this will prove the more successful system.

9. I was sorry to learn in every district, that less attention had been paid of late to the breeding of horses than in former times. I was told that after long trial horse breeding had been found a financial failure, that the Indian market "did not pay"; and it seemed difficult to procure a good stamp of horse. But the ordinary horses of the country, even when deficient in point of size and shape, seem to possess a wonderful mettle and endurance;

* Not printed.

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and I often watched with admiration the brisk manner in which a team of common-looking animals dragged a heavily laden waggon along a deep, sandy road. Some of the larger proprietors are now again, I am happy to learn, turning their attention to horse-breeding, and some good stock has been lately imported.

10. In most parts of the Colony I saw the vine flourishing luxuriantly. I have no doubt that Western Australia will one day be a great wine country. Much of the wine now made is good, but the whole art and occupation of wine growing is still in its infancy.

11. I visited several sheep stations at shearing time, and was struck with the great weight of the fleeces, which seem to preserve their length and closeness of staple after a succession of years in a climate where a very hot summer and a mild winter would, one might think, militate by natural selection against a weight of wool. Generally speaking, and excepting at a favoured locality or time of year, the pastures of Western Australia are poor; but the extent of land is great, and sheep farming is the most profitable industry of the Colony. On the flats along the Trivin River, near Dongara, I think I rode through the finest natural feed I ever saw in my life. At the Spanish mission of New Norcia, no less a great agricultural and pastoral than a religious establishment, I was most hospitally entertained and much honoured by Father Dominguez and the brethren. I was filled with admiration at the good work of the mission among the Aborigines collected on the station, and at the industry and success of the extensive farms.

12. I regretted to find that the lead mines of Northampton were yielding, slowly but surely, to the continued fall in the price of the ore. I have recently granted some leases for the working of copper lodes in that district, which I trust may prove a success.

13. The provincial towns of Western Australia are but villages. I believe not one of them, except Albany, has a population of 1,000 souls. Nevertheless, I was much pleased with them. I found in each a municipality doing good work, and a small but well-ordered community of thrifty, hardworking heads of families, who certainly deserved riches, and who were earning an honourable and sufficient livelihood for themselves and those belonging to them.

14. Many of the farmsteads I visited in the country districts, and many which I did not visit, are such as their owners may well be proud of. They represent years of arduous toil, and of courageous struggle with many difficulties. I found in some of them the greyhaired, sturdy, early settlers of the Colony, still strong and hale after nearly a half century of colonisation, now able, I was rejoiced to see, to rest from their labours, and to enjoy growing comforts and easier circumstances, while the farm or the sheep station was looked to by the stalwart sons. Wherever I went, I perceived that Western Australia, though not a country of richness, is nevertheless a land in which an honest worker of shrewd wit has rarely failed to gather round him, as years went

on, the possessions which constitute a modest competence, and perhaps something more, enjoyed amidst the affections and the ties of a home in which he can take life easily in the evening of his days, and from which he can see his children marry and go forth to such other homes of their own. I did not find the feverish, brand-new, shifting, and disjointed communities of a wealthy Colony, but I found a people among whom ties of kindred are numerous and much thought of, who have dwelt side by side with each other all their lives, who have preserved among themselves a unity and friendly feeling most pleasant to encounter, and social characteristics natural and agreeable in their unaffectedness, simplicity, and heartiness. Each little township resembles an English village rather than the Colonial assortment of stray atoms one is familiar with elsewhere. The more one sees and knows of Western Australia and its people the more they win upon one.

15. Through the northern and central districts, and on my southern trip as far as Busselton, or "The Vasse," as it is usually called, I was accompanied by Lady Barker, and it was evident that her presence was most acceptable to all. Probably no lady had ever made such an extended series of journeys through the Colony.

16. I was greeted everywhere with the heartiest manifestations of loyalty to the Queen, and of personal cordiality and respect for Her Majesty's representative; both my wife and myself being indeed received all through our journeys by all clases with a degree of honour, kindness, and hospitality which neither of us can ever forget. I do not mention the names of those who lodged us in their homes, who made every description of arrangement for our comfort, or who organised agreeable and often sumptuous dinners, balls, and other entertainments at which we were present. If I mention one I must mention all, for all were equally kind, and the list would be too long for this despatch.

17. At each township or cluster of houses, and often where there were no houses at all, triumphal arches were erected. As already mentioned, it was the season of our wonderful wild flowers, and these structures were frequently very beautiful, and as much a credit to the taste as to the loyalty of those who contrived them. The mottoes and devices were such as your Lordship may imagine would proceed from loyal and true-hearted subjects of the Queen, and the design and degree of the decorations varied from the triple-arched floral trophy under which an important municipality read its address, and where the children of the assembled schools sang the National Anthem, to the single word "Welcome," traced out in bright blossoms of "everlastings" laid across the sandy road by the children of some neighbouring and solitary cottage. Of the agricultural dinners, municipal banquets, and other occasions of oratory which I attended, it is unnecessary to say more than that I do not recollect in all the public speaking which it was my lot to listen to, one word in bad taste, or which a guest in my position would rather had been left unsaid. I encountered everywhere, among all classes, a sincere desire to advance the

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best interests of the Colony, and to co-operate cordially in this task with the head of the Government, coupled with the individual self-respect and manly independence of opinion, which best becomes an Englishman. I enclose copies* of the Government Gazettes containing the 16 addresses which I received, and my written replies. In these addresses, as well as at other opportunities, the wants of the districts, and at times alleged shortcomings of the Government were expressed to me with freedom, and I encouraged such expressions. Generally speaking, the matters to which my attention was solicited were extremely reasonable and proper, and within the duty and means of the Government. I am happy to say that I have been able in numerous instances to give effect to requests made to me.

18. The advantage which I have derived from seeing the country, and conversing with the leading men of each district, is of course inestimable. In many matters, on which official correspondence had shed anything but a sure light, I now feel that I possess the certain knowledge which is scarcely to be acquired second hand, and without which any forward action must be more or less of a hazard.

I made it a rule to urge upon the agricultural societies and farmers' clubs the importance of discussing at their meetings questions connected with the welfare of their districts, in order that representations on such a subject, for instance, as the land laws might not be put forward in a crude form, from this or that individual, but might reach the Government well sifted and considered, as the mature and united opinion of a body of settlers whose views, formed after open debate and hearing all sides, would be entitled to weight. I am happy to say that my efforts in this direction have borne fruit, and that I have already received useful communications from several districts. My hope is that these local clubs and societies may become centres of rural political life, at present very languid, and may, in time, counteract the undue preponderance of town opinion which now exists.

19. As I went along I tried to gather what had been the progress of Western Australia during the last 10 years. I found that there had been much real advance, but that the Colony had been hampered at every turn by the smallness of the population. The one great want is more people, of the right sort of course, not only more hands to labour, but more capitalists to employ them. I trust that the means we at length possess, the measures we are taking and the inducements we are now able to offer, will secure for the next 10 years a better record than an increase of population of only 20 per cent. (25,734 to 30,766), which is the figure for the year 1872–1882. During the same period the public revenue increased by 140 per cent. (105,300*l.* to 250,372*l.*), while the import and export trade not only rose 150 per cent. (435,852*l.* to 1,091,810*l.*), but rearranged itself so as to show, in 1882, an excess of exports amounting to 74,300*l.*,

* Not printed.

whereas 10 years before there had been an excess of imports amounting to 17,460*l.* In the same decade, wheat-growing appears to have decreased by 25 per cent.; and there is also a decrease returned in the cultivation of vines, oats, rye, potatoes, and maize; hay and green crops, however, increased by 100 per cent., which points to the abandonment of agriculture proper in favour of stock raising, as before noticed. In the period named sheep increased by 80 per cent. (688,290 to 1,259,797) and cattle by 50 per cent. (49,550 to 65,475). The total area of cultivated land only increased by 7 per cent. (from 53,240 acres to 56,691 acres). In fact, what with an increase of only 20 per cent. of the people, coupled with the drawing away of young men to the new districts of the Gascoyne, Nickol Bay, and Kimberley, there have not been hands sufficient to till any more ground. In 1872 the Government railways and telegraphs of the Colony were not in existence; they have now extended, the former to 74 miles, the latter to 2,300 miles, while, as your Lordship knows, very extensive additional railway schemes are in course of arrangement.

20. There has therefore been progress, and real substantial progress, during the 10 years to which the above figures refer; but in everything the increase is greater than the increase of the population, and the marvel is, how so few people have been able to bear so great a burden. One thing is certain, namely, that the disproportionate ratio between the growth of financial prosperity and the growth of numerical strength cannot be continued. I even fear that the financial prosperity may go backward if the recruiting of the population do not go forward. On this great need of numbers I have on all occasions insisted, and my best efforts are being and will be devoted to the furtherance of any steps which can, directly or indirectly, bring good settlers to our shores.

21. On the whole, my observation during this journey of 2,000 miles has left the impression that, so far as the prosperity and the pursuits of the people of the Colony have progressed, they rest upon a sound basis, capable of every considerable extension. The country is not, and never may be, an El Dorado where the fortune of a lifetime is to be got together in a few years; but if it does not offer rapid affluence, neither does it offer the ruin which is generally the reverse of this golden chance. I can scarcely doubt that Western Australia both can and will, within the next 20 or 30 years, prove itself to be a Colony in which thousands of the Queen's subjects will earn their daily bread easily from the moment on which they set foot on its soil, and in which very many of them will achieve an independent position in due time.

I have, &c.

(Signed) F. NAPIER BROOME.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Derby,
&c. &c.

NEW ZEALAND.

NEW ZEALAND.

No. 4.

STATISTICS of NEW ZEALAND, 1882.

Registrar-General's Office, Wellington,
26th September 1883.

POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS.

The estimated population (exclusive of Maoris) on the 31st December 1882 was 517,707 persons, being an increase during the year of 16,797. Of this increase, the excess of births over deaths amounted to 13,308, and the excess of immigration over emigration to 3,489. The Maori population was estimated in the census of 1881 at 44,097. No records are kept of the births or deaths among the native race.

Immigration.—The total ascertained arrivals in New Zealand during the year 1882 amounted to 10,945, of whom 7,042 were males and 3,903 females. Of these 9,279 were classified as adults, being over 12 years of age, and 1,666 as children. Of the total number, 726 were immigrants introduced at the public expense, and 23 were Chinese, of whom two were adult females and two children. Of the arrivals, 3,205 (including the 726 government immigrants) came from the United Kingdom, 4,046 from Victoria, 2,465 from New South Wales and Queensland, 463 from Tasmania 236 from Fiji, 379 from Hawaii, and the South Seas (the arrivals by the mail steamers from San Francisco are entered as from Hawaii), and 151 from other places.

Emigration.— The number of persons returned as having left the Colony amounted to 7,456. Of these 464 went to the United Kingdom, 3,026 to Victoria, 3,081 to New South Wales and Queensland, and 190 to Tasmania. There was thus an excess of immigration from the United Kingdom over the emigration thither of 2,741; and as regards the Australian Colonies and Tasmania, an excess of immigration over emigration of 677.

Aliens naturalized.—Letters of naturalization were granted to 128 natives of Foreign States during 1882. Of these persons 41 were Germans, 10 were Austrians, 33 were natives of Denmark, Sweden, and Norway, 26 were Chinese, and the rest were from various States.

Vital Statistics.

Births.—The living births registered in 1882 numbered 19,009, an increase on the births in 1881 of 277, but less than the number of births in 1880 by 332. The births in 1882 were at the rate of 37 · 32 per 1,000 of the population. This was a lower rate than that in 1881 (37 · 95), and the lowest on record in the Colony during the last 20 years. The highest on record in England for the 43 years, 1838–80, was 36 · 3 in 1876. The continuous falling off in the rate since then was deemed to be in natural accordance with the corresponding decline in the marriage rate. In New Zealand the marriage-rate has almost continuously declined since 1875, but the birth-rate increased until 1878, when it was 41 · 96 per 1,000; after that there was a decline.

If the birth-rate be compared with the number of married women between the child-bearing ages of 15 and 45, the following results are arrived at, the comparisons being made for the census years when the number of persons at each age-period was ascertained. In 1874 these women comprised 12 · 22 per cent. of the population, the birth-rate per 1,000 of the population was then 40 · 05. In 1878 they comprised 12 · 31 per cent., the birth-rate was 41 · 96. In 1881 they comprised 1 · 73, and the birth-rate was 37 · 95.

Sex.—Of the children born alive, 9,712 were males and 9,297 were females, or at the rate of 104 · 4 males to 100 females. The mean proportion for the 10 years, 1873–82, was 105 males born to 100 girls.

Illegitimate Births.—These births amounted to 546 in number during 1882, equivalent to 2 · 87 per cent. of the total births. The per-centages in the previous 3 years were, in 1881, 2 · 85,; in 1880, 2 · 43; and in 1879, 2 · 30.

Marriages.—The number of marriages solemnized in 1882 was 3,600, an increase of 323 on the number in 1881. The proportion of marriages to every 1,000 persons of the population was 7 · 07, or 14 · 14 persons per 1,000 were married. This rate, although higher than the rates in 1881 and 1880, is still much lower than the average rates for the years preceding 1881, and it is not only lower than the mean rate in England for the 43 years, 1838–80, but is lower than the lowest rate (14 · 4) during those years. The proportion married per 1,000 in England in 1880 was 14 · 9 persons; but, in comparing the proportions in England and New Zealand, it must be remembered that there is in England an excess of females equivalent to about 2 · 7 per cent. of the whole population, and in New Zealand an excess of males equivalent to about 10 per cent. If the excess in each case be deducted from the numbers of the whole population, the proportion of persons married to the 1,000 of population of equal number as to sexes would be 15 · 35 in New Zealand in 1882, and 15 · 64 in England in 1880.

If comparisons be made between the number of marriages and the number of marriageable males and females respectively in the

NEW ZEALAND. Colony a serious falling off in the proportions married will be observed; the comparisons being taken for the census years when information as to the ages of the population was obtained.

Year.	Number of Bachelors and Widowers 20 Years and upwards at time of Census.	Number of Marriages in Year in which Census was taken.	Proportion of Marriages per 1,000 of Bachelors and Widowers 20 Years and upwards.	Proportion of Marriages per 1,000 of Population.	Proportion of Bachelors and Widowers per 100 of Population.
1874 - -	47,124	2,828	60·01	8·81	15·73
1878 - -	57,913	3,377	58·31	7·97	13·97
1881 - -	65,087	3,277	50·35	6·64	13·28

Year.	Number of Spinsters and Widows 15 Years of Age and upwards at time of Census.	Number of Marriages in Year in which Census was taken.	Proportion of Marriages per 1,000 of Spinsters and Widows 15 Years and upwards.	Proportion of Marriages per 1,000 of Total Population.	Proportion of Spinsters and Widows per 100 of Population.
1874 - -	22,378	2,828	126·37	8·81	7·47
1878 - -	33,743	3,377	100·08	7·97	8·14
1881 - -	44,422	3,277	73·77	6·64	9·06

There has thus been a large and progressive decrease in the proportion of marriages to the number of marriageable males and females respectively. This is more striking from the fact of the presence of a large excess of male population at marriageable ages, and the progressive increase in the proportion of marriageable females. In 1882 the marriages increased to 3,600, estimated to be equivalent to about 76·33 per 1,000 of spinsters and widows over 15 years of age.

Forms of Marriage.—918 of the marriages, or 25·50 per cent. of the total number, were solemnised by ministers of the Presbyterian denominations; 819, or 22·75 per cent., were solemnised by ministers of the Church of England; 444, or 12·34 per cent., by ministers of the Roman Catholic Church; 379, or 10·53 per cent., by ministers of the Wesleyan Methodist Society; 111, or 3·08 per cent., by ministers of other Methodist bodies; 170, or 4·72 per cent., by ministers of other denominations; and 759, or 21·08 per cent., by registrars.

There has been a steady increase in the proportions of marriages solemnised by Registrars since the marriage fee was reduced in

1875 from 3*l.* to 1*l.* The following are the proportions, for the past ten years, to every 100 marriages solemnised :—

1873	-	9·3	1878	-	17·2
1874	-	10·3	1879	-	17·8
1875	-	10·5	1880	-	20·5
1876	-	16·7	1881	-	20·2
1877	-	16·9	1882	-	21·1

Signatures in Marriage Registers.—90 of the men, or 2·5 per cent. of the number married, and 179 of the women, or 4·9 per cent. of the number married, signed with marks. The similar proportions for the three previous years were, respectively—of men 3·2 in 1881, 2·7 in 1880, and 3·3 in 1879; of women, 5·8 in 1881, 5·3 in 1880, and 6·41 in 1879.

Ages of Persons Married.—3,600 women were married during the year 1882: of these 1,058, or 29·39, per cent. of the whole number, were under 21 years of age. Two of these females were under 15 years of age.

The following are the proportions of men and women married at each age-period out of every 100 marriages during the last 2 years :—

Ages.	1881.		1882.	
	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.
Under 21 - -	1·95	29·08	1·80	29·39
21–25 - -	28·87	41·59	29·62	42·78
25–30 - -	33·38	17·15	35·78	15·14
30–40 - -	24·96	8·76	22·67	9·28
40–50 - -	8·21	2·71	7·58	2·58
50–60 - -	1·77	0·52	1·64	0·67
60–70 - -	0·73	0·18	0·78	0·16
70 and upwards -	0·12		0·13	

Deaths.—The deaths during 1882 numbered 5,701, equivalent to 11·19 for 1,000 of the mean population. In 1881 the similar proportion was 11·13, and in 1880 11·46.

A comparative table exhibiting the death rate per 1,000 of the mean population in England and the Australasian Colonies for the years mentioned, and also in each case the mean for a period of years, is herewith given :—

England, 1880 - -	20·5	- Mean for 10 years,	1870–79	21·6
New Zealand, 1882 -	11·19	- „ „	1873–82	12·15
Queensland, 1882 -	17·99	- „ „	1873–82	17·59
New South Wales, 1881	15·12	- „ „	1872–81	15·51
Victoria, 1881 - -	14·16	- „ „	1872–81	15·52
South Australia, 1881 -	13·97	- „ „	1872–81	15·39
Tasmania, 1881 - -	14·77	- „ „	1872–81	16·22
Western Australia, 1880	13·24	- Mean for 9 years,	1872–80	15·39

Sexes of deceased Persons.—Of the total deaths, 3,355 were of males and 2,346 were of females, or 12·02 per 1,000 of the male

NEW ZEALAND.

population and 10·19 per 1,000 of the female population; a mortality in equal numbers living of 118 males to 100 females.

Causes of Death.—The following table gives the classification of diseases which caused the mortality for the year with the percentage of each class and order of disease to the total mortality in 1881 and 1882:—

	1881.	1882.
CLASS. I.—ZYMOTIC DISEASES.		
Order 1. Miasmatic diseases - - - -	19·43	19·77
„ 2. Enthetic „ - - - -	0·24	0·17
„ 3. Dietic „ - - - -	2·00	1·91
„ 4. Parasitic „ - - - -	0·71	0·67
	22·38	22·52
CLASS II.—CONSTITUTIONAL DISEASES.		
Order 1. Diathetic diseases - - - -	3·33	3·60
„ 2. Tubercular „ - - - -	12·39	10·72
	15·72	14·32
CLASS III.—LOCAL DISEASES.		
Order 1. Nervous diseases - - - -	10·71	11·80
„ 2. Circulation, diseases of - - -	5·76	6·35
„ 3. Respiratory organs, diseases of - -	12·19	11·26
„ 4. Digestive organs „ - -	7·76	6·35
„ 5. Urinary organs „ - -	1·79	1·98
„ 6. Generative organs „ - -	0·40	0·35
„ 7. Locomotive organs „ - -	0·26	0·28
„ 8. Integumentary system „ - -	0·18	0·20
	39·05	38·57
CLASS IV.—DEVELOPMENTAL DISEASES.		
Order 1. Children, diseases of - - - -	5·08	5·17
„ 2. Adults „ - - - -	1·53	1·54
„ 3. Old people „ - - - -	2.17	2·53
„ 4. Nutrition „ - - - -	5·28	5·86
	14·06	15·10
CLASS V.—VIOLENCE.		
Order 1. Accident or negligence - - -	7·52	7·77
„ 2. Battle - - - - -	—	0·02
„ 3. Homicide - - - - -	0·07	0·14
„ 4. Suicide - - - - -	0·77	0·93
	8·36	8·86
Causes not defined - - - - -	0·33	0·42
Abscess not defined - - - - -	0·10	0·21

Zymotic Diseases.—The deaths from these diseases amounted to 1,284 in 1882, against 1,229 in 1881, the proportions to the total deaths having been 22·52 per cent. in 1882 and 22·38 per cent. in 1881. One death occurred from small-pox, that of a male

between 25 and 30 years of age, at the Quarantine Station, Auckland. The mortality from measles was less than in 1881, but that from scarlatina and diphtheria was considerably greater; there was also an increased number of deaths from croup, but typhoid fever was less fatal.

The mortality from some of the principal zymotic diseases during the three past years is herewith given:—

——	1880.	1881.	1882.
Measles	4	113	86
Scarlet fever (scarlatina)	9	104	153
Diphtheria	89	83	142
Croup	49	59	74
Whooping cough	73	20	68
Typhus, typhoid, and simple continued fever	177	137	131
Dysentery	165	112	51
Diarrhœa	397	309	258
Cholera	2	15	18

Amongst those who died from zymotic diseases were seven suffering from hydatids. In three cases the hydatids attacked the liver; in one there was a hydatid cyst in the abdomen, in one case the hydatids were in the brain, in another in the pleura, and in another they caused an ovarian tumour. The youngest sufferer was 13 years of age and the eldest 47 years.

Constitutional Diseases.—Among the deaths from these diseases those from cancer amount to 147, *i.e.*, 78 of males and 69 of females, against a total of 133 in 1881. The deaths from phthisis were 438, against 468 in the previous year. The following table gives the ages at death, and the length of residence in the Colony, of the various persons who died from phthisis in 1882:—

Length of Residence in Colony.	Age at Death.											Total.
	Under 5 years.	5 to 10.	10 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 35.	35 to 45.	45 to 55.	55 to 65.	65 to 75.	75 years and upwards.	Age not specified.	
Males.												
Under 1 month	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
1 month to 6 months	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
6 months to 12 months	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	4
1 year to 2 years	1	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
2 years to 3 years	—	—	—	1	5	1	—	1	—	—	—	8
3 years to 4 years	—	—	—	2	4	—	1	—	—	—	—	7
4 years to 5 years	—	—	—	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
5 years to 10 years	—	—	—	2	17	16	3	—	—	—	—	38
10 years to 15 years	—	—	—	1	1	9	3	1	—	—	—	15
15 years to 20 years	—	—	—	3	2	14	8	2	—	—	—	29
20 years to 25 years	—	—	—	1	6	7	10	3	2	1	—	30
25 years and upwards	—	—	—	—	—	4	3	3	1	—	—	11
Not known	—	—	—	7	14	6	9	2	2	—	—	40
Born in Colony	9	2	2	21	16	1	1	—	—	—	—	52
Totals	10	2	2	46	71	60	38	12	5	1	—	247

Length of Residence in Colony.	Age of Death.											
	Under 5 years.	5 to 10.	10 to 15	15 to 25.	25 to 35.	35 to 45.	45 to 55.	55 to 65.	65 to 75.	75 years and upwards.	Age not specified.	Total.
Females.												
Under 1 month	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 month to 6 months	—	—	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
6 months to 12 months	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
1 year to 2 years	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
2 years to 3 years	—	—	—	2	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	7
3 years to 4 years	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
4 years to 5 years	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	4
5 years to 10 years	—	—	4	3	15	5	5	2	—	—	—	34
10 years to 15 years	—	—	—	—	7	5	1	—	—	—	—	13
15 years to 20 years	—	—	—	1	5	11	3	—	—	—	—	20
20 years to 25 years	—	—	—	6	8	3	1	—	—	—	—	18
25 years and upwards	—	—	—	—	4	3	1	1	1	—	—	10
Not known	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	4
Born in Colony	10	5	7	33	13	1	—	—	—	—	—	69
Totals	10	5	11	49	68	30	12	5	1	—	—	191
Totals both sexes	20	7	13	95	139	90	50	17	6	1	—	438

In 44 cases the length of residence in the Colony was not given of the remaining 394 cases, only 36 not born in the Colony had resided in the colony for a less period than three years. Of the total number who died, 121, or 27 per cent., were born in the Colony.

The 438 deaths from phthisis were at the rate of 8·60 per 10,000 persons living, of a mean population of 509,309. If allowance be made for the 44 deaths of persons who had not resided more than three years in the Colony, and who may be fairly assumed to have been diseased on arrival, the rate per 10,000 would be reduced to 7·73; the death-rate from phthisis in England having been, for the five years 1875–79, 21·16 per 10,000, and 18·75 in 1880.

Local Diseases.—The number of deaths from these diseases was 2,199 in 1882, against 2,143 in 1881—an absolute increase of 56, but a proportionate decrease of 12, as the number in 1882 would have been 2,211 if the number of these deaths had increased in the same proportion that the population had increased. There was a considerable increase, both actual and proportional, in the deaths from diseases of the nervous system, viz., from 588 in 1881 to 673 in 1882; also in diseases of the organs of circulation, the numbers having been 316 in 1881, and 362 in 1882: but there was a decrease in the deaths from diseases of the respiratory system from 669 to 642, and in those from diseases of the digestive system from 426 to 362.

Developmental Diseases.—These diseases caused 861 deaths in 1882, against 772 in 1881. Of these deaths in 1882, 87 were directly attributed to childbirth, exclusive of 14 deaths from puerperal fever, classified among the zymotic diseases, 144 to old age, and 334 to atrophy and debility, of which 293 were of infants under 12 months old.

Violent Deaths.—The deaths in this class amounted to 505, an increase of 46 on the same class of deaths in 1881. Of these

deaths in 1882, 443 were attributed to accidental causes, of which 156 were from drowning, viz., 133 men and 23 women. The deaths of 4 males and 4 females were attributed to homicide, and 45 males and 8 females committed suicide.

Deaths at Various Ages.—The following table gives the estimated numbers of the mean population for 1882 at the various age-periods specified, also the number of deaths at each period, and the proportions those deaths bore to the 100 persons living at those ages. It will be observed that up to ten years of age, and after 40 years of age, the mortality among males was numerically and proportionally greater than among females :—

Age-periods.	Males.			Age-periods.	Females.		
	Estimated Number living at each age-period.	Deaths.	Proportion of Deaths per 100 living.		Estimated Number living at each age-period.	Deaths.	Proportion of Deaths per 100 living.
Under 1 year -	9,575	934	9·75	Under 1 year -	9,161	744	8·12
1 to 5 - -	33,693	379	1·12	1 to 5 - -	33,397	330	0·99
5 „ 10 - -	35,675	175	0·49	5 „ 10 - -	35,169	155	0·44
10 „ 15 - -	29,980	69	0·23	10 „ 15 - -	30,059	74	0·24
15 „ 20 - -	21,885	87	0·39	15 „ 20 - -	22,556	89	0·39
20 „ 25 - -	22,945	131	0·57	20 „ 25 - -	20,185	96	0·47
25 „ 30 - -	24,844	142	0·57	25 „ 30 - -	17,446	105	0·60
30 „ 40 - -	42,095	302	0·71	30 „ 40 - -	28,909	212	0·73
40 „ 50 - -	35,395	366	1·03	40 „ 50 - -	19,219	174	0·90
50 „ 60 - -	14,990	303	2·02	50 „ 60 - -	8,355	113	1·35
60 „ 70 - -	5,890	251	4·26	60 „ 70 - -	4,051	117	2·89
70 „ 80 - -	1,842	149	8·09	70 „ 80 - -	1,381	86	6·22
80 and upwards	335	62	18·50	80 and upwards	276	50	18·11
Totals -	279,144	3,350	1·20	Totals -	230,164	2,345	1·02

Hospitals.—The number of hospitals in 1882 was 37, containing in the aggregrate 180 sleeping wards, and beds for 890 male and 354 female patients. The patients admitted during the year amounted to 5,433, of whom 4,221 were males and 1,212 were females. The total number of inmates relieved during the year amounted to 6,043, viz., 4,709 males and 1,334 females.

In 77 cases the sole complaint of the patients was returned as "old age," and in 99 cases as "atrophy or debility." This would imply the use of the hospitals as a refuge for weak and elderly persons not suffering from any specified disease.

Lunatic Asylums.—The seven lunatic asylums in the Colony contained 1,168 patients on the 1st January, 1882, and 409 were admitted during the year, 248 were discharged during the year, 79 died, and 1 escaped. Of the 1,249 remaining at the end of the year, 995 (viz., 674 men and 321 women) were supposed to be incurable. There was sleeping accommodation in these asylums for 1,289 patients.

TRADE AND INTERCHANGE.

Shipping.—The total shipping inwards at the various ports of the Colony was 795 vessels of 461,285 tonnage, being an increase on the number in 1881 of 30 in the vessels, and 41,151 in the tonnage. Of the shipping inwards, 153 vessels of 137,045 ton-

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nage, arrived from the United Kingdom; 456 vessels, of 244,223 tonnage, from Australia and Tasmania; 103 vessels, of 43,223 tonnage from Fiji and other islands in the Pacific, in which are included the mail steamers that arrived *viâ* the Sandwich Islands, from San Francisco—13 vessels of 30,108 tonnage; 29 vessels, of 14,770 tonnage, from the United States; 22 vessels, of 5,694 tonnage, from the Mauritius; 9 vessels, of 8,265 tonnage from Bengal; 8 vessels, of 2,680 tonnage, from China and Japan; 2 vessels from the Cape Colony; 1 vessel from Canada; and 12 vessels from the whale fisheries.

The total shipping outwards was 769 vessels of 438,551 tonnage, being an increase as compared with 1881 of 7 in the number of vessels, and 25,064 in the tonnage. Of the vessels outwards, 642, of 362,814 tonnage, cleared with cargoes, an increase on the similar tonnage in 1881 of 12,415; and 127 of 75,737 tonnage, cleared in ballast. Of the vessels with cargoes, 115, of 108,811 tonnage cleared for the United Kingdom; 382 of 189,617 tonnage cleared for Australia and Tasmania; 103, of 41,672 tonnage for the Pacific Islands; including the monthly mail steamers for San Francisco, *viâ* the Sandwich Islands; 14, of 9,060 tonnage, cleared for the United States; 10, of 3,566 tonnage, for the Cape Colony; 4, of 2,824 tonnage, for France; 4, of 1,891 tonnage, for China; 2, of 1,798 tonnage, for India; 1, of 1,537 tonnage, for Java; 1, of 150 tonnage, for the Mauritius; 1, of 318 tonnage for Portugal; and 5, of 1,570 tonnage, for the whale fisheries.

Registered Vessels.—There were 584 vessels, of 76,196 tonnage on the New Zealand register on the 31st December, 1882, against 572 vessels, of 72,387 tonnage, on the 31st December, 1881. Of the 584 vessels, 137, of 18,340 tonnage, were steam-vessels, and 447, of 57,856 tonnage, were sailing vessels. The increase during the year amounted to 4 sailing vessels, of 1,105 tonnage, and 8 steam vessels, of 2,704 tonnage.

Imports and Exports.—The total value of the imports in 1882 was 8,609,270*l.* against 7,457,045*l.* in 1881, being an increase of 1,152,225*l.* The total value of the exports was 6,658,008*l.*, against 6,060,866*l.* in 1881, an increase of 597,142*l.*

Value of total Trade.—The total trade of the Colony as represented by imports and exports, amounted in 1882 to 29*l.* 19*s.* 6¼*d.* per head of the mean population exclusive of the Maoris. It has formerly been noticed that this estimate is not of a character to be compared with similar rates elsewhere, as no allowance is made therein for Maori consumption, and the difficulties in the way of giving a correct rate, through want of knowledge of the exact numbers of the native population, and the annual variations in their numbers, and also of the measure of their consumption of imported articles, have been commented upon in previous reports; but, assuming that five Maoris consume imports equal to two Europeans, the trade per head of the European and Chinese portion of the population would have been 29*l.* 8*s.* 2¼*d.*, or a reduction of 11*s.* 4*d.* per head.

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The trade with the United Kingdom amounted to 10,262,717*l.*, an increase of 1,256,800*l.*, on that of 1881; that with Victoria to 1,808,956*l.*; that with New South Wales to 1,189,215*l.*; that with South Australia to 83,063*l.*; that with Tasmania to 87,525*l.*; and that with Queensland to 37,250*l.* The trade with the United States amounted to 898,177*l.*, an increase of 198,745*l.*; that with Mauritius to 207,899*l.*; that with China to 192,206*l.*; and that with India to 232,201*l.* The trade with other European countries than the United Kingdom amounted to 59,807*l.*, of which that with France amounted to 50,025*l.* The trade with the Pacific Islands amounted to 146,177*l.*; of this amount the trade with the Fijis amounted to 59,684*l.*, against 40,667*l.* in 1881. The trade between the Pacific Islands and New Zealand is almost entirely centred in the Port of Auckland. The imports and exports per head of the mean population in 1880, 1881, and 1882 were as follows:—

	Amount per head of the Mean Population (exclusive of Maoris).		
	1880.	1881.	1882.
	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*
Imports - - -	12 19 10	15 2 2¾	16 18 1
Exports - - -	13 7 10½	12 5 7¾	13 1 5¼

The following exhibits the increase or decrease of the imports in each provincial district as compared with 1881:—

	Increase.	Decrease.	
	£	£	
Auckland - - - -	442,497	—	or 28·95 per cent
Taranaki - - - -	432	—	„ 0·91 „
Hawke's Bay - - -	35,622	—	„ 19·55 „
Wellington - - -	234,334	—	„ 21·89 „
Marlborough - - -	—	940	„ 5·04 „
Nelson - - - -	23,302	—	„ 10·06 „
Westland - - - -	—	31,758	„ 21·30 „
Canterbury - - -	335,199	—	„ 22·24 „
Otago - - - -	113,544	—	„ 4·22 „

The following is a comparison of the total values of imports in 1881 and 1882, according to the countries whence they were received:—

	1881.	1882.	Increase.
	£	£	£
United Kingdom -	4,530,316	5,553,324	1,023,008
British Colonies - -	2,489,839	2,505,730	15,891
Foreign States - -	436,890	550,216	113,326

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Gold exported.—The value of the gold entered for duty for exportation from New Zealand in 1882 amounted to 1,002,720*l*., against 1,080,790*l*. in 1881, a decrease of 78,070*l*. The following table shows the increase or decrease of the amounts entered for duty for exportation in 1881 and 1882 respectively :—

——	1881.	1882.	Increase or Decrease.
Produce of the gold fields in the district of—	£	£	£
Auckland - - - -	141,326	131,007	Decrease 10,319
Wellington - - -	Nil	37	Increase 37
Marlborough - - -	4,531	5,400	„ 869
Nelson and Westland - -	523,010	532,472	„ 9,462
Otago - - - -	411,923	333,804	Decrease 78,119
Totals - -	1,080,790	1,002,720	Decrease 78,070

The total amount of gold entered for duty for exportation from New Zealand to the 31st December 1882, was 39,464,143*l*.

Wool exported.—The total quantity of wool exported in 1882 amounted to 65,322,707 lbs. of the declared value of 3,118,554*l*., being an increase as compared with the wool exported in 1881 of 5,906,767 lbs., and of 208,794*l*. in the declared value. The annual production of wool is better estimated by a statement of the exports for the twelve months ending the 30th September—that is, immediately preceding the commencement of shearing.

The exports for the last ten years ending respectively on the 30th September were as follow :—

Year ending 30th September.	Wool exported. lbs.
1873 - - -	43,999,570
1874 - - -	46,498,782
1875 - - -	49,942,148
1876 - - -	56,624,304
1877 - - -	56,520,278
1878 - - -	62,166,251
1879 - - -	62,644,497
1880 - - -	62,586,189
1881 - - -	60,477,151
1882 - - -	64,402,712

In addition to the amount thus exported about 2,200,000 lbs. of wool were taken in 1882 for consumption by local woollen mills. This would raise the produce in 1882 to about 66,602,712 lbs. As the consumption by these mills was 917,223 lbs. in 1880, the consumption in 1881 may be assumed at 1,500,000 lbs., and therefore the export above given should be increased by that quantity to represent the wool produce for that year.

Value of Exports from different Ports.—In 1882 the exports from Dunedin amounted to 1,701,300*l.*, an increase as compared with 1881 of 171,536*l.*; the exports from Lyttelton to 1,655,005*l.*, an increase of 207,878*l.*; the exports from Wellington to 782,527*l.*, an increase of 19,040*l.*; the exports from Auckland to 975,301*l.*, an increase of 162,188*l.*; the exports from Greymouth and Hokitika to 250,660*l.*, against 411,268*l.* in 1881, a decrease of 160,608*l.*; the exports from Napier to 624,002*l.* an increase on the exports in 1881 of 163,156*l.*; those from Invercargill and the Bluff to 355,093*l.*, against 284,547*l.* in 1881; those from Timaru to 111,161*l.*, a decrease of 38,785*l.*; and those from Oamaru to 100,527*l.* a decrease of 18,727*l.*

Value of Exports to different Countries.—Of the total exports, those to the United Kingdom amounted to 4,709,393*l.*; those to the Australian Colonies and Tasmania to 1,342,144; those to the United States to 434,684*l.*; those to the Pacific Islands (including the Fijis) to 71,318*l.*; those to the Cape Colony to 43,101*l.*; those to France to 33,495*l.*; and those to China amounted to 18,835*l.*

Articles exported.—Of the articles exported, the mines yielded exports to the value of 933,927*l.*; the fisheries to the value of 5,693*l.*; the forests to the value of 393,906*l.*; animals and their produce to the value of 3,601,727*l.*; agricultural products to the value of 1,140,839*l.*; and Colonial manufactures to the value of 96,628*l.*

Letters, Post Cards, &c.—The number of letters posted and the number delivered during 1882 amounted in the aggregate to 30,525,579; being an increase on the similar number in 1881 of 4,967,648; the number of post cards posted and delivered amounted to 959,095, an increase in the year of 86,555; and the books and packets posted and delivered amounted to 2,396,255.

Newspapers.—The newspapers posted in the Colony in 1882 amounted to 5,959,626, against 5,019,380 in 1881; and the number delivered amounted to 7,357,473, against 7,228,663 in 1881.

Telegraph Stations.—There were 265 telegraph stations in the Colony on the 31st December 1882. The number of private and press telegrams transmitted during the year amounted to 1,361,817, and the number of Government telegrams was 208,372.

Average Rates of Wages.—There is a considerable variation in the rate of wages, not only in the provincial districts, but also in various parts of those districts; but as the rates vary so much in the several districts no average for the Colony has been attempted, as that would be misleading. Notwithstanding the variations, the rates, taken in connexion with the prices of the principal articles of provisions, are throughout sufficiently high to render New Zealand an attractive home for the operative classes

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FINANCE, ACCUMULATION, AND PRODUCTION.

Revenue. — The Customs revenue in 1882 amounted to 1,515,917*l.*, against 1,421,600*l.* in 1881, being an increase of 94,308*l.*, or 6·63 per cent. The following figures show the comparative amounts realised by this branch of the revenue during the 10 years 1873 to 1882 inclusive :—

	£		£	
1873	965,890	being an increase of	152,521	or 18·75 per cent.
1874	1,188,948	„ „	223,148	or 23·10 „
1875	1,234,967	„ „	46,019	or 3·87 „
1876	1,206,791	being a decrease of	28,176	or 2·28 „
1877	1,224,906	being an increase of	18,115	or 1·50 „
1878	1,344,688	„ „	119,782	or 8·90 „
1879	1,237,259	being a decrease of	107,429	or 7·98 „
1880	1,258,362	being an increase of	21,103	or 1·70 „
1881	1,421,609	„ „	163,247	or 12·97 „
1882	1,515,917	„ „	94,308	or 6·63 „

The ordinary revenue in 1882 amounted to 3,408,351*l.*, being an increase on the ordinary revenue of 1881 to the extent of 201,797*l.* The territorial revenue in 1882 amounted to 508,809*l.*, or 42,130*l.* less than the similar revenue in 1881. The total ordinary and territorial revenue amounted in 1882 to 3,917,160*l.*

Expenditure. — The ordinary expenditure amounted to 3,501,946*l.* 14*s.* 7*d.*; the territorial expenditure to 322,789*l.* 3*s.* 5*d.*; or a total of ordinary and territorial expenditure of 3,824,735*l.* 18*s.*

In addition to the above ordinary and territorial expenditure there was a special expenditure of 821,976*l.* 9*s.* 6*d.* out of loans. Of this amount the expenditure on immigration amounted to 1,982*l.* 7*s.* 8*d.*; that on railway construction to 372,477*l.* 5*s.* 7*d.*; that on roads to 169,661*l.* 1*s.* 8*d.*; that on land purchases to 32,691*l.* 13*s.* 8*d.*; that on telegraph extension to 16,756*l.* 13*s.* 1*d.*; that on waterworks on gold fields to 7,307*l.* 12*s.* 7*d.* that on public buildings, lighthouses, and harbour works to 123,593*l.* 19*s.* 10*d.*; and that on contingent defence to 84,778*l.* 10*s.* 9*d.*

Besides the revenue raised by the General Government, referred to in the tables belonging to this portion of the volume, the county and borough councils, road, river, and harbour boards levy rates, and obtain revenue from other sources for purposes of local government.

To give a just idea of the full cost of government to the people in the year 1882 and of the amount spent, to the revenue and

expenditure of the General Government must be added that of the local bodies, which is done in the following table:—

Revenue.

				Amount Received.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
General Government (for the year ending 31st December 1882).*				3,917,160	5	6
Local bodies revenue (counties, boroughs, road and river boards, for the financial year ending 31st March 1883; harbour boards for year ending 31st December 1882) -	927,578	14	7¾			
Deduct amount of receipts from General Government -	151,030	12	10			
				776,548	1	9¾
Total revenue				4,693,708	7	3¾
Receipts of local bodies, not revenue				311,466	8	11
Total - -				5,005,174	16	2¾

Expenditure.

				Amount Expended.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
General Government (for the year ending 31st December, 1882).*				3,824,735	18	0
Local bodies (for periods see above) - -	1,397,863	6	3¾			
Deduct payments made by General Government, as per contra side - -	151,030	12	10			
				1,246,832	13	5¾
Total - -				5,071,568	11	5¾

* The revenue and expenditure of the General Government has been given, excluding amounts received and expended out of loan. But it is impossible to separate the expenditure of the local bodies out of loan from that out of revenue.

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The above result can only be considered as approximate on account of the different dates to which accounts of various bodies are made up.

Debt of the Colony.—The total public debt of the Colony, consisting of debentures and Treasury bills in circulation, and advances on security of debentures and Treasury bills, on the 31st December 1882, amounted to 30,235,711*l.** The accrued sinking fund amounted on that date to 2,462,496*l.*, the net indebtedness thus was 27,773,215*l.* The charges on the debt on the 31st December were at the rate of 1,518,493*l.* 10*s.* per annum, of which the amount payment to the Sinking Fund Commis ioners was 129,052*l.*

Railways.—The total length of Government railways open for traffic on the 31st March 1883 was 1,370 miles, 62 chains. The estimated cost of the opened lines was 10,478,998*l.* The revenue for the year ending the 31st March 1883, exclusive of postal services, amounted to 953,347*l.* 11*s.* 4*d.*; the expenditure to 592,821*l.* 15*s.* 4*d.* The revenue actually received in excess of the expenditure amounted to 360,525*l.* 16*s.*, equal to 3*l.* 3*s.* 2*d.* per cent. on the gross outlay on railways opened and under construction, and to 3*l.* 8*s.* 10*d.* per cent. on the cost of the opened railways. The net revenue for the year ending the 31st March 1882 was equal to 3*l.* 7*s.* 3*d.* on the gross outlay, and 3*l.* 18*s.* 2*d.* on the cost of opened railways. The lower rate of profit in 1882–83 was not attributable to diminished traffic but to lowered rates of freight, the increase in the revenue not having been proportionate to the increased traffic.

In addition to the Government railways, there are nearly 91 miles of private railways open and being worked.

Accumulation.

Banks.—The total average liabilities of the banks within the Colony during 1882 amounted to 10,015,273*l.* 12*s.* 11*d.*; the total average assets to 17,162,234*l.* 19*s.* 4*d.* There was thus, as compared with the results in 1881, a decrease of liabilities to the extent of 67,915*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*, and an increase of assets to the extent of 2,298,589*l.* 9*s.* 10*d.* The value of specie and bullion held by the banks was less by 145,712*l.* 5*s.* 8*d.*, and the discounts had increased by 301,756*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.* The total paid-up capital amounted to 5,450,000*l.*; the total amount of the last dividends declared in 1882 to 382,500*l.*; and the total of the reserve funds at the time of declaring those dividends to 2,772,363*l.*

Post Office Savings Banks.—There were 208 Post Office savings banks open at the end of 1882, an increase of 18 on the number in 1881; 21,014 accounts were opened during the year, and 14,505 closed, thus showing an increase of 6,509 depositors. The total deposits during the year amounted to 1,325,852*l.* 2*s.* 11*d.*, an average of 10*l.* 4*s.* to each depositor; the withdrawals amounted to 1,142,599*l.* 0*s.* 1*d.*, the deposits exceeding the withdrawals by

* This does not include the debts due by the various local bodies.

183,253*l.* 2*s.* 10*d.*; 57,517 accounts remained open at the close of the year, having a total of 1,470,950*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.* standing to their credit, equal to an average amount of 25*l.* 11*s.* 5*d.* to the credit of each account, an increase of 1*l.* 8*s.* 1*d.* on the average amount at the close of 1881. The average amount at the credit of each account has steadily increased since 1879, when it stood at 22*l.* 12*s.* 11*d.*, the lowest average since the establishment of these banks in the Colony.

Other Savings Banks.—There were seven savings banks in the Colony in 1882 that were not connected with the Post Office. The number of persons having deposits therein amounted to 10,841, of whom 19 were Maories. The total amounts deposited in 1882 amounted to 273,330 2*s.* 7*d.*, and the total withdrawn to 244,285*l.* 5*s.* 7*d.* The total amount to the credit of the depositors on the 31st December 1882 was 361,097*l.* 4*s.* 2*d.*, equal to an average amount at credit of each deposit account of 33*l.* 6*s.* 2*d.* The total accumulated deposits in both classes of savings banks on the 31st December 1882 amounted to 1,832,047*l.* 17*s.* 8*d.*, being an increase during the year of 282,532*l.* 15*s.* 5*d.*

Mortgages and Releases.—The usual tables given in previous volumes, setting forth the mortgages and releases effected during the year, have been omitted from this volume, as they were found to be misleading. They were only valuable as showing the numbers of transactions in the office in each deeds registration district, but, as mortgages for the one amount were sometimes registered in more than one district, as debts on mortgage are often cancelled without any formal release being registered, either by joint sale by the mortgagor and mortgagee or otherwise, the results did not show the actual increase of or amount of indebtedness on mortgage. It is expected that tables of value in this respect will be obtained from the compilations in the Property-Tax Department.

Production.

Crown Lands alienated.—The total area of Crown lands sold during the year amounted to 138,512 acres. The cash received amounted to 209,004*l.* 11*s.* 1*d.*; in addition, scrip to the value of 1,591*l.* 1*s.* was received in payment for land purchased. The alienations without sale amounted to 122,100 acres, of which 5,577 were for public reserves, and 108,932 to Europeans or natives, under Native Reserves Acts and Native Lands Acts.

Land taken up on Deferred Payments.—83,930 acres 3 roods 25 perches of land were taken up during the year on the deferred-payment system. Of the total amount taken up since the commencement of the system 165,283 acres have been finally alienated on completion of payments, and 66,139 acres 2 roods 4 perches have reverted to the Crown by forfeiture. The total amount taken up from the beginning of the system to the 31st December, 1882, was 657,554 acres 17 perches; allowing for the forfeitures there were thus, at the end of 1882, 426,131½ acres held under this system in respect of which the whole of the payments had

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not been made, and 165,283 taken up under the system and finally alienated. The total amount of cash received in respect of these lands to the 31st December 1882 amounted to 342,942*l.* 2*s.* 2½*d.*

Agricultural Statistics.—The information is only given in respect of holdings of cultivated land of upwards of one acre in extent, exclusive of holdings of aboriginal natives and of gardens attached to residences. The returns of the collections made in the early part of 1883 gave a total of 27,352 of such holdings, against 26,298 in 1882. In the last ten years these holdings have increased in number from 15,883 to 27,352; the proportion of holdings to the population is almost stationary, having been 53·67 per 1,000 of population in 1874, and 53·73 per 1,000 in 1883; but in 1874 50·29 per cent. of the population were under 21 years of age, and in 1881 the proportion was 52·96.

The extent of land under the principal grain crops, viz., wheat, oats, and barley, amounted to 738,822 acres, against 638,910 in 1882, an increase of 99,912 acres. The extent of land under green and other crops amounted to 394,473 acres, against 363,573 in 1882, an increase of 30,900 acres. Of these 394,473 acres, 285,679 were in turnips or rape, the number of acres in these crops having been 258,526 in 1882; 4,322,562 acres were returned as being in artificial grasses, an increase on the returns in 1882 of 384,493 acres. Of the land in sown or artificial grasses in 1883, 2,018,964 acres had been previously ploughed; and in the case of 2,303,598 acres the grass seed had been sown broadcast, either on freshly-burnt bush land or among native grasses, or had been spread through the grazing of cattle.

The extent of land under wheat in the early part of 1883 was 390,818 acres, an increase of 25,103 acres on the returns of last year. The aggregate estimated produce of the wheat crop amounted to 10,270,591 bushels, or an average of 26·28 bushels per acre, against a total crop in 1882 of 8,297,890 bushels, an average of 22·69 bushels per acre. The highest average per acre was in Taranaki, namely, 29·15 bushels; and next Otago, with an average of 28·94 bushels. In Canterbury the average was 25·53 bushels per acre. Of the 10,270,591 bushels grown, 6,359,992 were grown in Canterbury, and 3,033,227 in Otago.

The extent of land under oats amounted to 319,858 acres, with an estimated production of 10,520,428 bushels, or an average produce of 32·89 bushels to the acre, an increase on the returns for 1882 of 76,471 acres, 3,595,580 bushels in the aggregate yield, and of 4·44 bushels in the average yield per acre.

There were 28,146 acres of land under barley, a decrease on the number in 1882 of 1,662. The aggregate crop in 1883 was estimated at 737,163 bushels; an average of 26·19 bushels per acre. There was thus in 1883 a decreased extent in barley of 1,662 acres as compared with 1882, but an increased production of 73,070 bushels; the estimated crop in 1882 having been on an average 22·28 bushels per acre.

20,488 acres were under potatoes in 1883, with an estimated yield of 104,581 tons, equal to an average of 5·1 tons per acre; a decrease on the extent in 1882 of 2,052 acres, and in the crop of 17,309 tons.

Local Industries.—Although no return of local industries has been made since the census of 1881 was taken, it is deemed advisable to reprint the results of the compilation then effected as evidence of the growth of the local manufactories and industries to that date.

LAW, CRIME, AND EDUCATION.

Civil Cases.—There were 1,444 writs of summons tested in the Supreme Court during the year 1882, against 1,156 in 1881, and 1,681 in 1880. 73 cases were tried in 1882, namely, 64 before juries and 9 before a judge only. The total aggregate amount for which judgments were recorded was 73,425*l.* 12*s.* 3*d.* The total number of civil cases disposed of in the various district courts was 508, an increase of 126 on the number in 1881; 34 cases were tried before juries, and 310 before the respective judges only. The aggregate amount sued for was 51,908*l.* 18*s.* 4¾*d.*, and judgments were recorded for 16,836*l.* 0*s.* 2½*d.* There were 26,298 civil cases in the various magistrates' courts, with a total amount sued for of 306,350*l.* 14*s.* 5¾*d.*; the aggregate amount for which judgments were given was 148,304*l.* 12*s.* 9*d.*

Bankruptcy.—796 declarations of insolvency were filed in the Supreme Court in 1882, and there were 24 adjudications in bankruptcy on petitions by creditors; 487 declarations of insolvency were filed in the various district courts, and 14 adjudications were made on petitions by creditors; the total number of bankruptcies having thus been 1,321, against 1,406 in 1881, 1,476 in 1880, and 1,818 in 1879. The aggregate assets, as shown by the statements filed, amounted to 803,072*l.*, and the aggregate liabilities to 931,791*l.* Although there was a decrease in 1882 of 85 in the number of bankruptcies as compared with the number in the previous year, yet the aggregate liabilities were greater in 1882 than in 1881 by 108,773*l.*

Criminal Cases.—22,108 charges for various offences were brought against persons (other than Maoris) before the magistrates' courts in 1882, an increase of 2,811 on the number in 1881. The summary convictions in 1882 amounted to 16,573, and the persons committed for trial before the superior courts numbered 467; of these 30 were Maoris.

There were indictments against 389 persons in the Supreme and District Courts in 1882; of these 37 were Maoris. 77 males and 6 females were tried in the Supreme Court for offences against the person; of these, 45 males and 4 females were convicted. 166 males and 14 females were indicted in the Supreme Court for offences against property; of these 91 males and 8 females were

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13 males and 1 female were indicted in the District Courts for offences against the person; of these 7 males were convicted. 7 males were indicted for offences against property, of whom 6 were convicted; and 16 males and 1 female were indicted for miscellaneous offences, of whom 8 males were convicted.

Of the total number of persons convicted, 19 were Maoris, 18 having been convicted in the Supreme Court and 1 in a District Court.

The summary convictions in the various resident magistrates' courts numbered 16,573, viz., 14,619 of males and 1,954 of females, an increase on the numbers convicted in 1881 of 2,254 in the males and 240 in the females. 876 males and 78 females were convicted for offences against the person; 1,077 males and 110 females for offences against property; 5,472 males and 856 females (including the same persons convicted more than once) were convicted for drunkenness; and 7,194 males and 910 females were convicted of other offences.

The summary convictions include those of 310 Maori males and 43 Maori females; of these, 35 males were convicted of offences against the person; 39 males and 4 females of offences against property; 116 males and 13 females of drunkenness; and 120 males and 26 females of other offences.

Sentences of Criminals.—71 prisoners were sentenced in the superior courts to terms of imprisonment under 1 year; of these, 63 were males and 8 females. 36 males and 3 females were sentenced to terms of 1 and under 2 years; 32 males and 3 females to terms of 2 and under 3 years; 31 males and 3 females to terms of 3 and under 5 years; 9 males to terms of 5 and under 7 years; 12 males to terms of 7 and under 10 years; 2 males to terms of 10 and under 15 years; and 1 male to a still longer term of imprisonment. 3 males were sentenced to death.

Gaols.—Excluding the persons imprisoned as debtors or charged with lunacy, there were 601 males and 89 females in confinement in the various gaols at the commencement of the year. 3,631 males and 914 females were received during the year, and 524 males and 104 females remained in confinement at the end of the year. The total number in confinement during the year amounted to 5,235, or 1·02 of the population, against a per-centage in 1881 of 0·85, in 1880 of 0·97, and in 1879 of 1·24. 34 children under 10 years of age were received in the various gaols during the year for various offences; of these, 4 had been committed for felony. 95 of the prisoners received were between 10 and 15 years of age, of whom 58 were committed for felony; and, of 250 between 15 and 20 years of age committed for various offences, 119 were committed for felony.

Of the prisoners in confinement during the year, 1,371 males and 558 females had been committed before. The following table

gives the number of prisoners during each of the past five years who had been previously convicted :—

	Once.		Twice.		Three or more Times.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
1878 -	426	58	201	52	450	454
1879 -	430	69	236	50	663	477
1880 -	339	67	195	40	656	425
1881 -	411	58	235	55	599	443
1882 -	393	67	255	51	723	440

Education of Prisoners.—Of the prisoners received during the year 445 males and 195 females were unable to read ; 129 males and 69 females were able to read only; 3,280 males and 681 females were able to read and write ; and 52 males and 3 females were returned as having received a superior education.

Religion of Prisoners.—The prisoners (exclusive of those received for debt or lunacy) received during the year amounted to 4,545 ; of these, 4,164 belonged to four denominations. They were as follow :—

Denomination of Prisoners.	Number of Prisoners.	Proportion per 100 of Total Prisoners.	Proportion of Persons of Denomination per 100 of Total Population. at Census of 1881.
Church of England - -	1,956	43·03	41·50
Roman Catholic - -	1,553	34·17	14·08
Presbyterian - - -	585	12·08	23·09
Wesleyan - - -	70	1·54	9·52

Inquests on Deaths.—594 inquests were held on deaths in 1882, viz., 487 on the deaths of males and 107 on the deaths of females ; of these, the deaths of 260 males and 40 females were attributed to accident, including the deaths of 118 males and 17 females from drowning.

The deaths of 11 males and 1 female were ascribed to intemperance, exclusive of one case of suicide from that cause, and the deaths of 42 males and 9 females were suicidal.

Inquests on Fires.—52 inquests on fires were held during the year. In 14 cases verdicts of incendiarism were returned.

Public Schools.—The number of primary schools in 1882 supported entirely by the Government was 911, against 869 in 1881. The number of instructors in 1882 amounted to 2,143 viz., 1,036 males and 1,107 females. 87,179 children attended these schools in the last quarter of 1882, viz., 45,082 males and 42,097 females ; of these, 127 males and 42 females were Maoris. There was an increase of 3,619 in the attendance in 1882, as compared with that in 1881.

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Ages of the Pupils.—19,736 of the pupils were between 5 and 7 years of age; 31,002 were at the ages of 7 and under 10 years; 26,229 at 10 and under 13 years; 8,565 at 13 and under 15 years; and 1,647 at 15 years of age and over.

Secondary or Superior Aided Schools.—There were 17 schools of this class, 10 for boys, 3 for girls, and 4 for boys and girls, that either had public endowments or that received aid from the Government. The number of instructors was 140, viz., 98 males and 42 females. The total number of pupils on the roll for the last term of 1882 was 1,899: 1,327 boys and 572 girls.

Public Schools, Income and Expenditure.—The total income in 1882 of the various education boards amounted to 327,008*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.*; of this, the amount received from the Government was 296,119*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.*, and that from education reserves 21,258*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* The total expenditure amounted to 353,111*l.* 5*s.* 11*d.*, of which 8,458*l.* 16*s.* 10*d.* was for the expenses of the boards; 9,115*l.* 16*s.* 7*d.* for inspection and the examination of teachers; 258,683*l.* 3*s.* for the maintenance of schools; and 71,852*l.* 4*s.* 9*d.* for school buildings.

Private Schools.—The number of private schools in 1882 from which returns have been received was 262, against 266 in 1881. Of these, 28 were for boys only, 50 for girls, and 184 for both boys and girls. The number of teachers was 609, viz., 135 males and 474 females. The number of pupils was 10,002, against 9,987 in 1881. Of the pupils, 4,136 were males and 5,866 females.

Industrial and Reformatory Schools and Orphanages.—There were in December 1882 six institutions gazetted as industrial schools under "The Industrial Schools Act, 1882." Of these, 3, viz., 1 at Auckland, 1 at Burnham in Canterbury, and 1 at Caversham in Otago, are maintained wholly from the public funds; 1 at the Thames was established by the local authorities; 2, viz., 1 at Auckland and 1 at Nelson, are Roman Catholic institutions, combining the functions of orphanages and industrial schools, and receiving subsidies from the Government. These several schools contained 488 male and 339 female committed children at the end of 1882.

The orphanages were 6 in number, 2, as above stated, being also gazetted industrial schools. These institutions contained 112 male and 109 female non-committed children at the end of the year, or a total in both classes of institutions of 1,048 children.

Excluding the number in the Thames Orphanage, who are also enumerated among the children attending the public schools, the total number of children in the Colony receiving instruction at the various public, private, and industrial schools and orphanages amounted to 100,110, viz., 51,132 boys and 48,978 girls; but of these 119 were under five years of age, and should properly be excluded from that number.

Native Schools.—The number of schools maintained by or ceiving aid from the Government for the education of children

of the native race was 71, having an aggregate attendance in the last quarter of 1882 of 2,260 children, of whom 1,244 were males and 1,016 were females. Of these, the number attending the native village schools was 2,024, the majority of whom were Maoris or half-castes: but 315 should be classed among the European population, either as having a larger strain of European than of Maori blood, or as being of entirely European extraction.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Counties.

Revenue.—The total revenue of the 52 counties within which the administrative portion of the Counties Act was in operation, for the year ended the 31st March 1883, amounted to 221,907*l.* 18*s.* 3*d.*, of which 110,510*l.* 1*s.* 10*d.* consisted of grants from the public revenue.

Expenditure.—The total expenditure of these counties amounted to 288,777*l.* 8*s.* 3*d.*, of which the expenditure on public works amounted to 221,523*l.* 1*s.* 10*d.* that on charitable institutions to 5,319*l.* 13*s.* 11*d.*, and that on management to 36,416*l.* 14*s.* 3*d.* The grants to the road boards amounted to 9,713*l.* 18*s.* 6*d.*

Municipal Boroughs.

Annual Value of Rateable Property.—There were 70 boroughs in existence in March 1883 having an aggregate estimated net annual value of rateable properties of 2,113,957*l.*, made in terms of "The Rating Act, 1876," which provides for a reduction from the renting value of 20 per cent. on houses and buildings, and 10 per cent. on land.

Revenue.—The total aggregate revenue of these boroughs amounted to 376,095*l.* 7*s.* 7*d.*; of this the grants by the General Government amounted only to 2,187*l.* 18*s.* 3*d.* The receipts from rates amounted to 179,569*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*

Expenditure. — The total expenditure amounted to 534,134*l.* 1*s.* 7*d.*, of which the sum of 421,498*l.* 2*s.* 10*d.* was expended on public works, and 46,596*l.* 13*s.* 5*d.* on office charges.

Loans.—The outstanding loans of the various boroughs amounted to 1,958,546*l.* at rates of interest varying from 5 to 8 per cent.

Harbour Boards.

Revenue.—The aggregate revenue of the 24 harbour boards for the year 1882 was 184,294*l.* 7*s.* 4*d.*, of which the sum of 17,465*l.* 15*s.* 3*d.* was received from the General Government, the amount paid to the New Plymouth board having been

NEW ZEALAND. 17,145*l.* 15*s.* 3*d.* The receipts from wharfage dues, fees, rents, tolls, &c., amounted to 156,241*l.* 8*s.* 6*d.*

Expenditure. — The total expenditure amounted to 332,651*l.* 10*s.* 2*d.*, of which the sum of 228,238*l.* 14*s.* 5*d.* was expended on public works and maintenance.

Loans.—The aggregate amount of outstanding loans of the various harbour boards was 1,508,900*l.*, the rates of interest varying from 5½ to 7 per cent.

Road Districts.

Revenue.—The revenues of the road districts in the Colony amounted in the aggregate to 130,052*l.* 5*s.* 1¾*d.*; of this amount the grants by the Government amounted to 20,852*l.* 4*s.* 5*d.*, and the revenue from rates to 78,993*l.* 3*s.* 9¾*d.*

Expenditure.—The total expenditure in these districts amounted to 221,450*l.* 8*s.* 10¾*d.*; the expenditure on public works was 184,602*l.* 19*s.* 6¾*d.*, and that on management was 16,432*l.* 13*s.* 9½*d.*

Annual Value of Rateable Property.—The values given in the tables are the same that were published last year. In terms of "The Rating Act, 1882," the road districts are to accept the values assessed under the Property Tax Assessment Act; but, as these assessments were not obtainable in time for the publication of this volume, the previous year's values have been given. The total net annual value for the year ending the 31st March 1882 was 2,611,402*l.*, the actual annual values having been reduced in manner previously stated in reference to the values for the boroughs.

River Boards.

There were 13 of these boards in 1882. Their total revenue amounted to 15,228*l.* 16*s.* 4*d.*, of which only 14*l.* 13*s.* 1*d.* was received (by the Pukaka River Board, at Marlborough) from the Government; the receipts from rates amounted to 7,575*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* The expenditure amounted to 20,849*l.* 17*s.* 5*d.*

Constabulary, Volunteers, Fire Brigades.

Armed Constabulary.—The total strength of the armed constabulary on the 31st December 1882 amounted to 1,137 men of all ranks. Of these, 464 were engaged on purely police duties throughout the Colony, distributed among 188 posts. Of this portion of the force, 11 were commissioned officers, 74 non-commissioned officers, and 379 rank and file. The reserve, retained for military emergencies, numbered 673, viz., 21 commissioned officers, 76 non-commissioned officers, and 576 rank and file. They were stationed at 27 different posts.

Volunteers.—The various branches of the volunteer force gave a total strength on the 31st December 1882 of 8,593 of all ranks. The totals of each branch of the force were as follow:—

——	Corps.	Strength.
Cavalry - - -	9	749
Artillery - -	13	985
Engineers - -	3	222
Rifles - - -	63	3,951
Naval - -	8	921
Cadets - - -	25	1,765

Fire Brigades.—In 1882 there were 38 fire brigades in the Colony, having a total strength of 152 officers and 814 men.

Representation.

Electors.—The aggregate number of the names on all the electoral rolls of the Colony in 1882 was 119,754, inclusive of those names which occurred in more than one roll, of which the number has not been ascertained. The total number is less by 1,427 than the number in the preceding year. Of the names given, 853 are those of Maoris who possessed the necessary qualifications, and were registered as electors.

(Signed) WM. R. E. BROWN,
Registrar-General.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY of the COLONY of NEW ZEALAND from 1880 to 1882 inclusive.

Year.	Population (exclusive of Maoris).			Able to Read and Write.	Births.	Deaths.	Marriages.	Immigration (excess over Emigration).	Inhabited Houses.	Crown Lands.			Land (including Sown Grasses) under Cultivation.	Live Stock.			
	Males.	Females.	Totals.							Waste Lands sold in each Year.	Cash realised.	Free Grants.		Horses.	Horned Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.
										Acres.	£	Acres.	Acres.				
1880	268,364	216,500	484,864*	—	19,341	5,437	3,181	7,231	—	131,798	184,488	41,972	4,506,889	—	—	—	—
1881	274,986	225,924	500,910	344,267	18,732	5,491	3,277	1,616	92,833	235,815	351,430	530,650	4,768,192	161,736	698,637	12,985,085	200,083
1882	283,303	234,404	517,707	—	19,009	5,701	3,600	3,489	—	138,512	209,004	122,100	5,189,104	—	—	—	—

continued.

Year.	Postal.					Shipping.						Exports (the Produce of New Zealand).					
	Letters (Received and Despatched).	Newspapers (Received and Despatched).	Postal Revenue.	No. of Money Orders Issued.	Amount of Money Orders Issued.	Inwards.		Outwards.		Registered Vessels belonging to the Colony.		Gold.		Wool.		Flax (Phormium).	
						No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	No. of Vessels.	Tonnage.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	No.	No.	£		£							Ozs.	£	lbs.	£	Tons.	£
1880	22,824,468	10,272,917	149,517	135,648	465,405	730	395,675	786	424,041	559	66,316	303,215	1,220,263	66,860,150	3,169,300	894	15,617
1881	25,557,931	12,248,043	156,579	135,556	452,182	765	420,134	762	413,487	572	72,387	250,683	996,867	59,415,940	2,909,760	1,308	26,285
1882	30,525,579	13,313,099	168,325	148,162	499,368	795	461,285	769	438,551	584	76,196	230,893	921,664	65,322,707	3,118,554	2,040	41,955

* The population of the Colony (other than Maoris) according to the Census of the 3rd April 1881, was 489,933 persons; the Maori population was 44,097.

Statistical Summary of the Colony of New Zealand from 1878 to 1880 inclusive—*continued.*

Year.	Exports (the Produce of New Zealand).				Imports.	Revenue.			Expenditure.		Electric Telegraph.			Miles of Railway.		Savings Banks.*		Friendly Societies.*		Convictions in Superior Courts after Commitment.
	Gum (Kauri).		Wheat, Provisions, Tallow, Timber, &c.	Total Value.	Total Value.	Ordinary.	Territorial.	Total for Year.	Out of Revenue.	Out of Loan.	Miles of Line.	Number of Messages.	Cash and Cash Values.	Open for Traffic.	Under Construction.	Number of Depositors.	Balance to Credit on 31st Dec.	Number of Lodges, &c.	Average No. of Members.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Value.																	
	Tons.	£	£	£	£	£		£	£	£			£				£			
1880	4,725	242,817	1,454,303	6,102,400	6,162,011	2,895,128	389,914	3,285,042	4,019,850	2,228,990	3,758	1,304,712	100,023	1,288	192	47,462	1,148,992	138	13,165	330
1881	5,460	253,778	1,575,560	5,762,250	7,457,045	3,206,554	550,939	3,757,493	3,675,797	1,069,927	3,824	1,438,772	101,566	1,333	187	61,054	1,549,515	179	14,484	270
1882	5,533	260,369	1,910,808	6,253,350	8,609,270	3,408.351	508,809	3,917,160	3,824,735	821,976	4,011	1,570,189	102,378	1,371†	171	68,358	1,832,047	245	19,000‡	265

* These figures do not give all the Friendly Societies in the Colony, but only such as furnished returns in each year.
† Government Railways; there are, besides, 91 miles of private lines.
‡ Approximately.

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No. 5.

PARTICULARS OF SEEDS AND PLANTS LATELY INTRODUCED TO JAMAICA BY THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC GARDENS AND PLANTATIONS.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
December 10, 1883.

THE Major-General Administering the Government direct to the publication, for general information, of the following Report by Daniel Morris, Esq., Director of Public Gardens and Plantations, in regard to collections of seeds and plants made by him for the Botanic Gardens in this Island while lately absent on leave.

By command,
(Signed) E. N. WALKER,
Colonial Secretary

Botanical Department, Gordon Town, P.O.,
SIR, December 4, 1883

I HAVE the honor to report that while absent from Jamaica, on vacation leave, I was enabled to make collections of seeds and plants for the Botanic Gardens in this Island, most of which had not been previously introduced.

2. My chief aim was directed to obtain and introduce seeds and plants of economic and industrial value, in order that, ultimately, their produce might contribute a quota to the wealth and resources of the country.

3. Although the number and value of the seeds and plants thus obtained were considerable, I anticipate that, having established relations with new correspondents in different parts of the world, I shall obtain, by exchanges and otherwise, many other important plants which are not at present in the Island.

4. From the Royal Gardens, Kew, I was permitted, by the kindness and courtesy of Sir Joseph Hooker, to make a valuable selection of economic and ornamental plants, some of which came out by the mail of the 17th October, and others under my own charge by the mail of the 2nd November.

5. Amongst these valuable plants was a fine well-grown set of *Cinchona Ledgeriana* raised at Kew. These will be kept at the Goverment Cinchona plantations as types of the best forms of this species. Other Cinchona plants were *C. Caloptera*, new to the Jamaica plantations, and *C. Calisaya var. Josephiana.*

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6. There was also included a good strong plant of Scammony (*Convolvulus Scammonia*), the dried root, as well as the resin from the root of which, is an important article in medicine. This is intended to be cultivated on the hills.

7. Amongst other plants obtained from Kew were *Aloe Succotrina*, one of the plants supposed to yield the famous Socotrine aloes of commerce; as also *Aloe Perryi*, the true plant; the latter, however, I regret to say has not survived.

8. *Garcinia Mangostana*, which bears the celebrated Mangosteen fruit of the Eastern Archipelago. Although plants of this were already established in the island I was fortunately able to supplement them by half a dozen more from Kew, which, when recovered from the effects of the voyage, will be planted in favourable situations.

9. Owing to the interest taken, at the present time, in fibre-producing plants, I brought out with me two authenticated plants of *Agave ixtli*, the source of the celebrated Sisal hemp of commerce. The cultivation and extraction of fibre from this plant, in Yucatan, form a large and increasing industry, estimated to reach an annual value of 100,000*l*. As much time and money is lost in fruitless experiments with many so called fibre-plants, it is a matter of the highest importance to be able to determine accurately what plants are known to yield remunerative results in other countries; and, also, those for which satisfactory machines have been invented to extract the fibre. These plants of *Agave ixtli*, have been put out at the Parade Garden, Kingston, where they may be seen by persons interested in the subject.

10. In a subsequent letter I hope to discuss, fully, the means for obtaining large supplies of these plants, in order to distribute them widely amongst those anxious to undertake their cultivation.

11. *Quillia Saponaria.* This is a large tree, native of Chili, rich in *saponine*, a vegetable soap principle. A few plants have been introduced for experimental trial, as it is anticipated that a demand will arise for the bark for use in the arts and manufactures.

12. *Piper methysticum.* This is described by Mr. Horne in "A year in Figi" as follows:—"*Piper methysticum* is grown to some extent by the natives for making their favourate beverage *agona* or *kava*. "When well grown it is a noble picturesque-looking "plant, worthy of cultivation in our English hot-houses. The "root is the part used, and the plant is easily propagated by "cuttings. Of late, attention has been called to the medicinal "properties which the plant is said to possess, and a quantity of "it has been exported to the Australian colonies. The Figians "give presents of its roots to their chiefs, friends, and any one "that they wish to propitiate. Between them and some of the "traders it has a recognised market value, at which it is bought "and sold, varying according to the supply and demand. The "best quality is grown in the mountains where it grows most

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"luxuriantly and in great abundance." The plant obtained from Kew arrived safely in Jamaica, in spite of its delicate character, and it is hoped that it will be fully established at the Castleton Gardens.

13. Numerous other plants from Kew were also introduced at the same time, consisting chiefly of new, ornamental and decorative foliage plants for the plains. These in due time will, no doubt, find a congenial home in the numerous well-kept gardens which exist in the Island.

14. While at St. Helena I received much valued assistance in making collections of seed of the numerous indigenous and introduced plants at present thriving there. To His Excellency the Governor of St. Helena, Lady Ross, the Honourable George Moss, Lieut.-Colonel Phillips, Mr. Bazett N. Knipe, and many others, I am indebted for great courtesy and kindness in these respects, which, I am glad to acknowledge here.

15. Having been so long a calling station for ships from all parts of the world, there are found at St. Helena plants from nearly every quarter of the globe; but more especially from India and the East, from Madagascar, Australia, and the Cape.

16. Among the seeds obtained from St. Helena were the following: *Royenia lucida* or wild peach—a pretty white-flowered bush, useful for hedges and shrubberies. It bears a fruit, a kind of purple plum, enveloped in an outer covering resembling the Cape gooseberry. *Royenia Pallens* or poison peach—similar to the last but taller. The wood is of a like nature to ebony.

17. *Olea Europœa* or true Olive. Two varieties of this important and interesting tree are completely naturalized in St. Helena, and by the kindness and courtesy of the Hon. George Moss I was enabled to bring with me about two bushels of fine ripe seed for distribution in this Island. Although so many other plants have been introduced to Jamaica from time to time, the olive has, apparently, not been successfully cultivated here. Mr. A. W. Heron, of Shooter's Hill, has or had a couple of plants of the olive which were obtained a short time ago, which if now alive are probably the first olives introduced to Jamaica. As the best varieties of the olive are propagated by cuttings or slips, in order to supplement the present supply of seeds it is intended to procure (through the Royal Gardens at Kew) a consignment of stock plants from known and reliable sources in Spain or Italy.

18. As regards the cultural treatment of the olive I would quote the following extract from an article on "The Vine and Olive in Siena," in the journal of the Society of Arts for October 19th 1883, pp. 1005–6:—

"The olive is cultivated on the hills. In some places it is "grown in plantations, and in others the trees are generally "planted in rows along the fields in combination with other "cultures. The varieties most generally grown are the *correggiolo* "the *moraiolo*, which ripens early, and the *olivastro*.

19. "The trees are grown from slips cut in the spring, which "are planted in holes in ground that has been well broken up "and covered with mould and watered as required. The hardiest "shoot is subsequently selected and may be permanently planted "in three years. The olive is also raised from seed. In the "districts of Siena, when a tree is about to be cut down, the "*ovoli*, or eyes, on the roots are detached and placed in a separate "plot of ground, plants being obtained from them in three years, "which can then be transplanted. In the wooded districts where "the wild olive is plentiful grafting is commonly employed. The "trees are usually planted in holes or ditches of more than two "yards square, and a yard deep, drained with a layer of stones.

20. "When the olives are planted in row in the fields, they are "generally pruned *a paneria*, nearly all the inner branches being "cut away from the centre to enable air and light to penetrate "freely. The trees are pruned every two or three years. The "most careful cultivators apply a special manure, when the trees "are between five and eight years old, composed of straw, mixed "with woollen rags, the whole saturated and moistened with "sewage, but this is not general, as the trees profit by the manure "laid on the fields. It is estimated that in the province of Siena "one acre of vines will produce 115 gallons of wine, and an acre "of olives 20 gallons of oil; the quantity of the former, actually "produced in 1882 amounting to 10,898,000 gallons, and of the "latter 780,000 gallons."

21. *Schotia tamarindifolia* or Coral Tree. A shrubby ornamental tree ten or twelve feet high, with crimson flowers somewhat resembling *Fuchsia:* but bearing short legumes, and large rounded seeds about one inch in diameter. According to Dr. Atherstone the beans from the pods of this plant are roasted and eaten in the Albany districts, where they are called Boerboom, and the powerfully astringent bark is used medicinally, as well as in tanning.

22. *Podocarpus elongatus* or Cape Yew. A handsome timber and shade tree allied to the Yacca (*P. coriaceus*) of Jamaica. A fast growing tree, suitable for the higher lands, and yielding excellent timber known at the Cape as Yellow Wood.

23. *Melhania erythroxylon* or red wood of St. Helena. A tree of twenty feet high, with handsome slender foliage of a pale green colour; the large bright flowers first appear pure white, changing after a day to pink, and finally to a brownish red. Flowers of all three colours are seen on the tree at one time, giving it a singular appearance. The wood is hard and of a rich brown colour. As one of the fast disappearing indigenous plants of St. Helena this is a very interesting tree, and its naturalization in Jamaica would be an event of considerable botanic and economic interest.

24. *Pittosporum undulatum* or Tree Pittosporum. One of the handsomest flowering trees of Australia, growing to a height of thirty or forty feet. The rich perfume of its white blossoms extends over a considerable area.

25. *Pittosporum viridiflorum* or green-flowered Pittosporum. A shrub which attains a height of ten or twelve feet. Though

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the flowers are not so handsome as in the last species they possess an equally delicious perfume.

26. *Leucæna glauca* or Seed-work Acacia. From the seeds of this shrub beautiful ornamental work is made at St. Helena which is largely sold to visitors. The tree is very common in the Liguanea plains and other places in Jamaica, and with taste and judgment ladies of small means might utilise the seeds for the manufacture of brooches, necklaces, &c. The seeds are coloured black by means of a little copperas (sulphate of iron).

27. *Acacia longifolia* or Port Jackson Willow. This is one of the hardiest and most easily grown of all Australian plants. It is admirably adapted for clothing the bare barren slopes of the Port Royal Mountains, and through the kind offices of His Excellency the Governor of St. Helena I have made arrangements to procure regular and large supplies of seed of this useful tree. The timber is close-grained and hard, something between Walnut and Salmwood and takes a fine polish. The bark, which contains a large quantity of tannin, is admirably adapted for the preparation of leather.

28. *Acacia* (*Albizzia*) *lophantha* or Black Boy. One of the most rapid-growing trees in exposed situations: it produces seed abundantly which germinate easily. For exposed hill sides, steep barren lands and desolate places, generally, this tree is invaluable to create shade and so induce shelter and a copious veg et tion (Mueller)

29. *Curtisia faginea* or Assegai tree. A hardy handsome shrub from the Cape of Good Hope. The natives of the region where it abounds employ it to form shafts for their javelins or assegai.

30. *Psiadia rotundifolia* or Bastard Gum Wood. The chief characteristics of the indigenous flora of St. Helena is the existence of tree-like plants allied to the English daisy, dandelion, and the common aster. As once described by Sir Joseph Hooker, " it is wonderfully curious flora, a fragment from the wreck of, " an ancient world, resembling none other in the rarity of the " plants of other countries, or in the number of species that have " actually disappeared within the memory of living men." Of these plants the Bastard gum wood is the most interesting as, at the present time, only one tree is known to exist in the world, and that grows in a field near Longwood, formerly the residence of Napoleon I. I have gathered and distributed seed of this tree in the hope it may be naturalised in other countries. The seed brought to Jamaica is apparently good, and hopes are entertained that plants will be established here.

31. *Aberia Caffra* or Kei Apple. A native of the Cape of Good Hope, belonging to the same natural order as the Annatto of the West Indies, but yielding an edible fruit of a golden yellow colour about the size of a small apple. The plant is admirably adapted for hedges, as it is densely clothed with strong dry spines,

forming an impenetrable fence. The fruit is chiefly used for making preserves.

32. *Harpephyllum Caffrum* or Caffre Red Date. A hardy and free-growing tree, adapted for dry, rocky, and barren spots, where it thrives abundantly. The foliage appears to be not liked by stock, and even goats do not touch it. The bright-red fruit, shaped like a date, is very acid, but of a pleasant flavour.

33. *Calodendron Capense* or Cape Chestnut. A very handsome tree with clusters of pale pink flowers. Suitable for the hills.

34. *Hakea gibbosa* or Snail Tree. A small fir-like tree, native of Australia, bearing fine needle-like leaves of a leathery texture. The woody fruit is in shape resembling the head of bird or land snail.

35. *Leucodendron argenteum* or Cape Silver Tree. This is a handsome tree or shrub, whose leaves are covered with white silky hairs.

36. *Quercus Suber* or Cork Oak. A few acorns from this oak were obtained, which are likely to grow. The Cork Oak, on the higher hill slopes, should become a common tree in Jamaica. It is both ornamental and useful.

37. *Casuarina equisetifolia* or Beef Wood. A handsome tall growing tree. Splendid for fuel, giving great heat. The timber is tough and nicely marked. The tree will grow either in sand near the sea or at high altitudes (Mueller).

38. *Agave lurida* or Fence Aloe. A handsome plant much used for fencing lands.

39. *Nephrodium Napoleonis*, a small handsome fern, found abundantly along the side of road from Longwood to Napoleon's tomb.

40. From Madeira, by courtesy of Dr. Grabham, I obtained seed of: — *Ceratonia siliqua* or Carob Tree. This tree is extensively cultivated in countries bordering on the Mediterranean, and especially in such as suffer from periodical drought, its long roots penetrating to a great depth in search of water. It is called Algaroba by the Spaniards, and Karoub by the Arabs, whence comes our English name of Carob or Caroub, the pods being called Carob-pods or Carob-beans, or sometimes sugar-pods. These pods contain a large quantity of agreeably flavoured mucilage and saccharine matter, and are commonly employed in the south of Europe (as the Guango is in Jamaica) for feeding horses, mules, pigs, &c., and occasionally in times of scarcity for human food. Two plants of the Carob were presented to the Botanical Department by Mr. William Lee, Administrator-General, a short time ago. One is growing near the Bungalow at King's House and the other at the Hope. Both are doing so well that there is no doubt the tree is well adapted for the climate of Jamaica; and further effort will be made to introduce and import large quantities of seed for general distribution. The gross export value of Carob-pods shipped from Cyprus during the last year, according to the *European Mail*, was over 100,000*l*.

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41. *Dracœna Draco* or Dragon Tree. The famous Dragon Tree of the Canaries, which derives its common name from a resinous exudation known in commerce as dragon's blood.

42. *Myrsiphyllum asparagoides.* This is a pretty twining plant with glossy myrtle-shaped leaves (or rather metamorphosed branches) very suitable for pot culture in verandahs.

43. Amongst other seeds obtained from Madeira were:— *Oreodaphne fœtans* or Têl Tree ; *Cytisus virgata ;* and *Erythrina spp.*

44. From the island of St. Thomas, through the kindness of Baron Eggers, I obtained several specimens of *Pontederea cærulea,* an interesting and ornamental aquatic plant not previously in Jamaica. This is described as "a singular plant from the West "Indies (Porto Rico) having roundish heart-shaped leaves, "borne on a thick swollen petiole full of air cells, by which the "plant floats on the surface of the water. It produces offsets "freely, soon extending itself over a large surface. It rarely "flowers in this state, but when it becomes attached to the soil "its footstalks become long and narrow, and it then produces its "pretty blue flowers." For the present the plants have been placed in the tanks at the Parade Gardens, Kingston, and the Castleton Gardens.

45. Other plants obtained from Baron Eggers were:— *Malpighia coccifera,* a small ornamental holly-like plant suitable for the plains; *Chlorophytum sp.,* a handsome piece of *Philodendron sp.* ; and the interesting proliferous orchid *Oncidium Lemonianum.*

I have, &c.
(Signed) D. MORRIS,
Director of Public Gardens
and Plantations.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary,
Kingston.

[NOTE ADDED.]—I would mention as of special interest a pot containing about 50 plants of *Dracœna Cinnabari,* which was brought out from Kew by the Mail of November 2. These plants are valuable as yielding the true Dragon's Blood collected in the island of Socotra. Dr. Bayley Balfour, who obtained the seeds from which these plants were raised, refers as follows to the "Kinnabari," or the resin of the Dragon's Blood tree of Socotra: "This 'Kinnabari,' which Diosdorides mentioned, was "obtained from a species of *Dracœna* (now named *D. Cinnabari*) "that grew on the island of Socotra, belonging to the family of "the *Liliacæ.* All the species of that genus did not yield resin, "but four only, which belonged to a very peculiar type of the "family, which branched very freely and formed a thick trunk.

"The peculiarity of this species was that not only did the trees "branch freely but the leaves were curiously stiff and sword-like, "and it formed a very thick stem. The resin was secreted from "the stem in the form of tears, exuding naturally from small "cracks or crevices, and forming a large red mess. In Socotra "it exuded most abundantly immediately after the rainy season. "This was the true Dragon's Blood as collected in the island of "Socotra, referred to by Pliny and many other old Authors."—(See Pharm. Journ.: and Trans.: No. 698 pp. 372–374.)

Dragon's Blood is largely used in the arts; and about 50,000 pounds weight reaches England every year. The rich polished mahogany, in such great request, owes a great deal of its beauty to the colouring properties of Dragon's Blood.

D.M.

THE OLIVE.

The introduction and general distribution of seeds of the true olive in Jamaica, is an event which deserves more than a passing notice.

Although so many other plants have been introduced to the Island from time to time, the olive has apparently not been successfully cultivated here. Mr. A. W. Heron, of Shooter's Hill, has or had a couple of plants of the olive obtained a short time ago, which, if now alive, are probably the first olives introduced to Jamaica.

The best olives are cultivated by cuttings, and seeds cannot be depended upon to produce the choicest varieties. The present distribution of seeds of the olive in Jamaica will, however, prove of value in many ways.

Firstly, in affording the means of judging what soil, climate, and aspect are suitable for the plants; and, secondly, in providing hardy stocks upon which, hereafter, may be grafted the more choice and delicate varieties.

Being generally so hardy and tenacious of life, there is no doubt the olive tree is destined to become thoroughly acclimatized on the hills of Jamaica. It bears such extremes of cold and heat in the Mediterranean region that, probably, no part of Jamaica will be unsuitable for it, excepting low, swampy, undrained soils and those of a decidedly clayey character. It should thrive abundantly on dry, rocky calcareous soils, such as are found so largely along the coast ranges of the Island; and throughout the parishes of Manchester, St. Elizabeth's, Westmoreland, and Hanover there are soils and situations where the olive should become one of the most prized as well as the most profitable of economic plants.

A nearly allied plant, *Olea* (*osmanthus*) *fragrans* is found in mountain gardens in St. Andrews; where it is easily recognised by its small white and beautifully fragrant flowers.

Another member of the olive family, (*Linociera ligustrina*)—by some called Jamaica rosewood, a large tree, is found wild in the hills of Manchester and St. Elizabeth's. The wood is very hard and fragrant, and is excellent timber. A sample of this wood, presented by Mr. C. W. Treleaven, of Bogue Estate, was lately sent to the International Exhibition at Amsterdam, where it attracted considerable attention.

There are altogether three genera of *Oleacea* (olive family) found wild in Jamaica, which include five species. The genera are *Hœnianthus, Linociera, Forestiera.*

Italy produces annually about thirty-three million gallons of olive oil, representing a value of 8,000,000*l.* sterling. The annual production of France has been estimated at about five-and-a-half million gallons. England consumes annually olive oil to the value of 1,200,000*l.*

In order to afford general information respecting the olive and its uses, the following notes have been compiled from different

sources, and doubtless, in view of the introduction of the olive to Jamaica, they will be read with interest.

The common olive, known botanically as *Olea Europea*, was brought into cultivation at a very early period of man's history, and at the present time its native country is unknown. Some authors suppose, and evidently on good grounds, that it originally belonged to Western Asia, from whence it migrated to Southern Europe, and Northern Africa. Be that as it may, the olive has been a cultivated plant in parts of the Mediterranean region from the earliest times. At the present day, very extensive districts are devoted to olive culture, in Portugal, Spain, Italy, the South of France and Algeria. The olive orchards, covering many square miles of country, give a distinctive character to large tracts of Spain and Italy.

The olive tree grows to the height of about 25 ft. or 30 ft. As, under cultivation, it is usually pollarded, it lacks the beauty of the tree allowed to grow naturally. The small lance-shaped leaves of the olive are shining above, and hoary beneath. The flowers, which appear in clusters near the ends of the branches, are small, of a greenish yellow character. The fruit when young is green (as in the pickling olives of commerce) afterwards it becomes of a deep purple or black colour, with a soft pulp investing the stone or hard kernel (putamen). The tree is of slow growth, very tenacious of life and of great longevity—so great indeed, that it is thought probable that the trees at present existing in the vale of Gethsemane are those which existed at the commencement of the Christian era.

Long continued droughts, so detrimental to most plants, will affect the olive but slightly. It thrives best on a free, loamy, calcareous soil, but dislikes clay. Proximity to the sea is favourable to it, and hill sides are more eligible for its culture than plains.

During the centuries of its culture, the olive has doubtless run into innumerable varieties, differing widely from the original form, from which selections have been made of those possessing the most highly valued properties of tree and fruit. It has been stated that the number of distinguished varieties of the olive in Europe is equal to that of the apples and pears in England and America.

The principal products of this tree are olive-oil and pickling olives, and for these it is extensively cultivated in Italy, Southern France, Spain, and other parts of Southern Europe, in Northern Africa, Western Asia, Australia, &c. The oil is derived from the flesh of the fruit, and is obtained by first passing the olives through a mill with crushing stones, somewhat similar to a cider mill, arranged so as to bruise the flesh without breaking the kernels, after which the mass is put into bags and subjected to pressure in a screw press, the first product being termed virgin oil. A second quality is obtained by moistening the *marc* or cake with boiling water and re-pressing it; and a third by crushing the cake so as to break the stones, and then boiling and again pressing it. Olive-oil is imported from several Italian ports, and also from

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France, Spain, Portugal, Morocco, &c. That from Leghorn, called Florence oil, is the kind used in this country as salad oil, and comes in flasks surrounded by rushwork; but Gallipoli oil, which forms the bulk of that imported, comes in casks; and Lucca oil in jars holding nineteen gallons.

As regards other products of the olive tree; in warm countries a resin-like substance exudes spontaneously from olive trees. This was formely described by Dioscorides as the tears of the Æthiopic olive; and in modern times it has been called *olive gum* or *lecca gum*. Formerly it was thought to possess useful medicinal properties, but it is not now employed.

The leaves and the young bark have been employed externally as astringents and antiseptics, and internally as tonics in intermittents.

According to Mr. Maltass, of Smyrna, a decoction of olive leaves, made by boiling two handfulls in a quart of water until reduced to half a pint, has been very successfully used in the Levant in the treatment of obstinate cases of fevers. Others have also testified to the febrifuge properties of the leaves as well as to that of the bark.

Olive wood is beautifully veined, and has an agreeable odour; it is much esteemed by cabinet makers for these reasons, and on account of the fine polish of which it is susceptible.

The fruit of the olive is, however, by far the most useful product of the plant, for independently of its great value when ripe as the source of olive oil already fully described, it is much esteemed in its unripe condition as a dessert. For this purpose the green, unripe fruits are first deprived of some of their bitterness by repeatedly steeping them in water, to which lime and wood ashes are sometimes added to shorten the process, and then preserved by bottling them in a slightly aromatized solution of salt. Several varieties of preserved olives are met with, but the most common are the small French or Provence olives and the large Spanish olives. The kind called *Olives a la Picholine* are prepared by steeping olives in a solution of lime and wood ashes

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No. 6.

The Rev. J. H. S. MOXLY, B.A., to Governor Sir WILLIAM ROBINSON, K.C.M.G.

SIR, Barbados, December 6, 1883.

WITH reference to the statements made by Dr. Domingos Freire of Rio Janeiro, as to certain "discoveries" made in an inquiry into the origin and development of yellow fever, as they appear in the Official Gazette which I had the honour to receive from you in July last, I beg to state that J. B. Harrison, Esq., B.A., Island Professor of Chemistry here, and I, have during some months conducted a series of experiments covering much the same ground as those of Dr. Freire, but in some important points going beyond them, the results of which with our deductions therefrom, and some remarks upon certain passages of Dr. Freire's last pamphlet (Etudes expérimentales sur la contagion de la Fièvre Jaune), very kindly sent us through Edwin Corbett, Esq., British Minister at Rio, by the author, we beg leave to lay before you in the form of a joint report.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. H. SUTTON MOXLY, B.A.,
Chaplain to the Forces.

COPY of REPORT on certain EXPERIMENTS conducted during the months of AUGUST, SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER, and NOVEMBER 1883, by J. B. HARRISON, Esq., B.A., Island Professor of Chemistry, and the Rev. J. H. SUTTON MOXLY, B.A., Chaplain to the Forces.

Our first step was to procure samples of mould from the graves of persons who died in this island of yellow fever during the very fatal epidemic of 1881, taking the soil from immediately above the coffin lids. The graves were dug in a soil mainly composed of old sea sand, but in some cases two bushels of freshly slaked lime had been placed on and about the coffins, and in others, in addition to this, the graves had been filled in over the lime with black mould brought from a distance. This had been done because when several persons had been buried it was found that the sandy soil did not deodorize the gases emanating from the bodies, and an offensive smell was perceived in the neighbourhood of the graves.

We also procured specimens of mould from graves other than those of yellow fever patients, and from open fields on which we could be sure no manure had been spread for several years. This

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These moulds were next placed in minute quantities in test tubes partially filled with a very strong solution of chicken soup which had previously been thoroughly filtered and sterilized, and great precautions were taken to prevent any germ of life having access to the soup but those which might be in the moulds experimented with.

We do not think it necessary to give a detailed account of these precautions here, but that they were eventually completely successful is vouched for by the fact that a test tube containing soup only without any mould, but otherwise treated in exactly the same way as the rest, has remained for some months in the developing box, and though the odour from the latter is extremely offensive owing to the putrefaction of the soup in other tubes, that in this one remains perfectly pure, and is in fact fit for the dinner table as when first placed in the box.

The soups impregnated with the various moulds became turbid in different degrees in a few hours, and on the second day most of them had turned a bright yellow colour, especially at the top. This bright yellow colour was especially noticeable in the soup in which soil from one of the yellow fever graves had been cultivated, and in that *in which soil from an open field had been placed.*

It may be mentioned here that the cultivation of moulds taken from immediately above the lime which, as we have said, had been placed about some of the coffins, whether the graves had been filled in with sandy soil or with black vegetable mould, gave almost no result as far as producing putrefaction is concerned, the soup "seeded" with these remaining clear save for a slight scum which rose to the surface, and the liquid when examined under the microscope showed scarcely a trace of bacterial life.

The earth from all the unlimed graves on the other hand, as also that from the open fields, rapidly developed the well known forms.

It is also worth remarking, as our experience here differs from that of some other observers, that from the same mould we always got the same type of bacteria, a cultivation of the deep sand invariably giving numerous micrococci, which after a day or two gave place to short thick-headed bacilli, while that from one of the fields constantly produced filamentous bacteria of great length, some indeed being long enough to cross the field of the $\frac{1}{4}$ inch lens twice.

These moulds were cultivated many times in different media, but always with the same result; the mould which produced the filamentous bacteria constantly gave the same species, no matter in what medium it had been cultivated, except that when "sown" in an extremely dilute solution of chicken soup, little more than

distilled water, the filaments were very few, and the bacteria commonly found in contaminated rain water began to appear. In no instance did we procure these filaments from the deep sand.

A microscopic examination of the several soils, diluted with water, always showed micrococci, except that soil taken from near the lime gave us no sign of life, but it was of cource impossible to detect, even when using a power magnifying more than 1,000 diameters, any difference between the micrococci of one mould and those of another; it was only after development in some suitable medium that the different species of bacteria could be seen.

Not to be wearisome, we may briefly state that many guinea pigs were injected hypodermically with these various cultivations without suffering any ill effects, save in two cases in which the animals operated on died; but as in these two case it was noticed that the pigs before injection were not healthy, and as the one which died first had been injected with the fourth part of a gramme of cultivation of *common field mould*, and as neither of them showed any symptoms of yellow fever, but rather of septicæmia, we began over again, set up fresh cultivations and when these were crowded with active bacteria injected many healthy pigs without producing in any one case the slightest result, save at the most a little swelling and lameness, which, however, invariably quickly disappeared, leaving the animal in perfect health. Indeed in many instances not even the slightest swelling was produced though a gramme had been injected, and that of very putrid soup, exhaling a most offensive odour, and showing under the microscope a swarm of bacteria.

Noting, however, that Dr. Freire had taken the mould he had experimented with from less than a foot below the surface, we tried the experiments over again, taking soil from the graves at all depths, but after a patiently conducted series of trials we came to the conclusion that we could not propagate yellow fever, nor indeed produce any other disease by this means, the animals injected remaining in every instance in their usual health.

We also injected with the blood of one of the pigs which had died during the first series of experiments without causing the slightest inconvenience to the injected animal.

We also cultivated the urine of the dead pig before mentioned, and although the soup in which it was "sown" became turbid in 45 minutes, and the next day was crowded with active bacteria, its injection in considerable quantity failed to produce even temporary inconvenience. The injected matter formed a pouch under the skin of the animal operated on, but becoming absorbed in a few hours left no ill effect, not even the slightest local irritation being set up. We next procured soil from the grave of a man who had died 20 years before of yellow fever, cultivated and injected in several cases without result. We then mixed some clay from an unlimed yellow fever coffin lid with water and fed guinea pigs with corn that had been thoroughly soaked in the mixture, giving them in fact nothing to eat or drink for weeks together

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which was not saturated with it, without producing any form of illness.

We forced into the stomach of a guinea pig about two grammes of cultivated soup, this was an abominally putrid liquid and swarming with bacteria from soil of an unlimed yellow fever grave, but the animal remained in perfect health.

These experiments, we think, conclusively proved that the cultivation of mould from yellow fever graves in very strong chicken soup, in weak chicken soup, in a composition of gelatine and phosphates, or in a mixture of soup and blood (which we also tried) could not produce yellow fever in healthy guinea pigs, the ordinary temperature of the place being preserved, and we were therefore so far unable to give the slightest confirmation to the theory of Dr. Freire. Our results up to this point may be said to have been altogether negative.

Anxious, however, in the interests of humanity to procure satisfactory evidence as to whether the graves of those who died of yellow fever are as stated, "perennial foci of infection" or not, we resolved to try what we considered a crucial, even if an unpleasant, experiment. We obtained matter from within the coffin of a yellow fever subject. The person had died two years before and the body was much decomposed, the flesh lying in slimy greasy masses, or hanging on the bones, but easily scraped off with a piece of wood.

We also procured the liver and kidneys of a person who had died six months before, but not of yellow fever, this latter for the purpose of checking our experiments with the former.

We then proceeded to make a developing box in which a high and constant temperature could be kept up, as we considered it possible that a high temperature might prove to be a necessity for the development of the disease we were anxious to produce We then set up the matter from the yellow fever subject, also that from the liver before spoken of, as well as several tubes containing liquids impregnated with the various soils before experimented on, including a sample from an open field (the playground of Harrison College).

We placed all the tubes in the "regulator" in which a constant temperature of 98.5° Fahr. was kept up, and allowed them to stand for 20 hours. In the meantime we injected two, one with a solution in distilled water of the yellow fever subject, and the other with liquid drained from the liver and kidneys mentioned above, and in which it could not be supposed there were any yellow fever germs.

Both in the fever corpse solution and in the liver juice, when examined under a $\frac{1}{10}$ inch lens, numbers of very minute but active micrococci could be seen.

The pig injected with the yellow fever solution showed swelling and irritation of the injected leg on the evening of the first day, but the other, which was a remarkably fine and healthy animal, did not seem to suffer any inconvenience till next day,

when the limb which had received the injection seemed paralysed and stuck out immovably behind. Towards the evening of this (the second day) the other hind leg became paralysed, and the animal rapidly sank and died.

An examination of the carcase was immediately made, when it was found that considerable inflammation followed the course of the great blood vessels entering the injected limb, and also, though in a less degree, those of the corresponding one, but the inflammation was less perhaps than might have been expected from the severe and rapidly fatal nature of the illness from which the animal had suffered. There was no collection of pus, anywhere in the body, not even about the puncture, which had received the poisonous matter. The viscera were normal and apparently healthy; the bowels, it is true, were much distended with gas, but there was no lesion of the mucous coat. The bladder was half full of urine of the usually turbid nature. (The urine of a healthy guinea pig is turbid, and rapidly deposits a sediment of a yellowish colour.) In the microscopic examination of the blood no bacteria were to be seen, but there was considerable disintegration, very many of the corpuscles being broken up.

The pig injected with the dilute raw solution of the yellow fever subject did not die till the fourth night after injection, having exhibited much the same symptoms as that just spoken of, and which had been injected with liver juice. There was some inflammation of the injected region, but save for a slight congestion of lungs and liver no injury of the internal organs could be perceived. The urine was of the usual colour, and when treated with nitric acid *showed no trace of albumen.*

The presence of albumen in the urine is an *invariable accompaniment* of yellow fever in fatal cases in the human subject, so that its absence is taken as evidence that whatever may have been the cause of death it certainly was not yellow fever. There were no bacteria in the blood, which was broken down as in the previous (liver) case.

Under a power giving more than 1,000 diameters it was thought that one or two extremely minute points gave signs of motion, but even if this were so, there was nothing to cause death, and any mocrococcic bodies that were supposed to be seen might easily be germs of putrefactive bacteria merely, as owing to unavoidable circumstances the autopsy was not made till some hours after death, and in this climate putrefaction sets in with great rapidity.

The two "cases" above mentioned had been injected with "raw" or uncultivated matter. We now come to speak of the results of subcutaneous injections and the cultures of the various moulds and substances developed in the "regulator" at a constant temperature of 98.5° Fahr.

When the tubes had stood for 20 hours and the contained liquids swarmed with active bacteria we injected several healthy pigs with small portions of the different fluids.

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One, a large female pig, was injected with the cultivation of the yellow fever subject. The animal showed signs of illness in three hours after injection. The limb operated upon stiffened and was projected if one may so speak, backwards. The corresponding limb was soon after affected and the paralysis continued to advance towards the upper part of the body till all power of motion had been lost, save that of opening the jaws, and death ensued in 32 hours after injection. Examination of the body was immediately made, when it was clearly seen that the virus had wrought great havoc, especially in the injected limb, the tissues of which were in a great measure dissolved. Great inflammation had seized upon the injected side, even upon the fore limb; on the other side the damage done was not so great, though still considerable. There could be no question as to the serious nature of the injuries inflicted, even the black servant, who was assisting at the examination could see that, and he exclaimed "Hi, master, she all gone rot."

The bladder was quite full of perfectly clear urine instead of the usually found turbid liquid; there was no trace of those globular bodies found in such numbers in the urine of the healthy guinea pig. The liver was pale in colour with yellowish specks upon its surface; its texture was firm, and on a section being made, except for the unusual paleness, there was nothing calling for notice. The stomach was enormously distended with gas, but contained nothing else, save a very little clear glairy fluid. There were one or two minute reddish specks on the mucous coat, but there had been no extravasation of blood. The heart was healthy, the left ventricle filled with a clot of blood, which when examined under the $\frac{1}{10}$ inch lens showed not a single bacterion. The corpuscles of the blood were almost all altered in shape or broken up, only a few remained circular. In no fluid of the body was there a trace of bacterial life, neither in the blood, serum, contents of the stomach, or urine. In this injected limb, the tissues of which were in great part dissolved there was not a single "microb" to be seen, though the liquid which had been injected might almost be said to have consisted of a mass of thick-headed bacilli. The temperature of this pig during its illness was never more than slightly above the normal point, (for guinea pigs we find between 102° and 103° Fahr.), and for several hours before death it had sunk considerably below this. There was no symptom of yellow fever in the illness of which it died, nor were the lesions which accompany yellow fever in the human body to be found in it when dead. The paralysis which formed so marked a feature of the case has no counterpart among the symptoms of yellow fever in the human body. We have thus no grounds for believing that this animal died of yellow fever, but rather of blood poisoning.

A healthy guinea pig was injected with a culture of soil from the 20 years old yellow fever grave, spoken of before as having been experimented with at the ordinary temperature of the place.

The pig was evidently unwell on the day after its injection, but lived till the evening of the sixth day. The symptoms were in this case similar to those already spoken of, the paralysis or loss of power of motion which seized upon the injected limb soon affecting the corresponding limb, and gradually, though more slowly than in most cases, advancing over the whole body.

The post-mortem made immediately after death disclosed extreme inflammation extending over all the injected side up to the neck and over both limbs on the other side. There was a considerable quantity of extravasated matter about the muscles of the injected leg. The internal organs showed marks of severe injury, the spleen was very dark in colour, especially at the edges; the liver was firm and apparently healthy, but the lungs had broken down into a soft mass throughout the greater part of their extent.

On the slightest pressure with the finger or forceps the substance gave way, and formed a pinkish pulp. The kidneys were large and soft, pale too in colour, the heart was flabby. The stomach contained a considerable quantity of glairy fluid, but showed no sign of inflammation. The bowels were quite empty and not distended with gas. In none of the fluids of the body were any baceteria to be found. Blood from the femoral vein of the injected limb, from the portal and jugular veins and from the heart was carefully examined, first under the $\frac{1}{4}$ inch lens and then under the $\frac{1}{10}$ inch, the fluids from the stomach and bladder were also examined for micrococci without any result. The blood in the injected limb seemed little better than debris, that from other parts of the body had its corpuscles comparatively uninjured. One testicle, that on the injected side, was much inflamed and swollen, being very red and firmly attached to the surrounding skin, the other was drawn up quite within the pelvis and lay close upon the bladder. The next subject was a healthy young pig (six weeks old.) A few drops of the culture of fresh mould, from the playground of Harrison's College, which had been developed at a temperature of 98.5° Fahr. were injected into one of the hind legs.

The animal died on the following night. On opening the body a few hours after death no bacteria could be found in blood or other fluids.

The viscera showed the same lesions as in other cases mentioned, the liver and spleen, however, in this case were very dark in colour and the latter looking as if its edges had been charred.

Another pig was injected with a similar cultivation of mould from the 20 years old grave, the temperature of culture being maintained at 98.5°. This animal died in 44 hours. In this case the loss of power and stiffness of both hind legs was a very early symptom. The creature seemed to suffer from almost tetanic convulsions and was evidently in great pain. The whole body was stiffened and convulsed, the head being drawn round so as almost to touch the injected leg. These pigs all died in

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The pig was opened immediately after its death, and surprising as it may seem although maggots were found between the epidermis and the peritoneum, no bacteria of any type could be found in the blood or other fluids. For the first time in these experiments the stomach was found full. The contents were simply the grasses the animal had eaten last, and they were in a totally undigested state, the vegetable tissues and cells appearing uninjured under the microscope. The stomach itself was so "rotten" that on taking up a part of it in the forceps for the purpose of cutting out the organ, the membranes gave way and the contents escaped. The liver and spleen were also so decomposed that they broke up on the application of the slightest force with the forceps, although the liver was not friable on slight pressure with the finger.

This organ (the liver) was very pale in colour, the spleen on the other hand being of a dark blood red, and having the charred appearance about the edges that has been noticed in other cases, and especially in that of the animal which died after injection with a culture of field mould. The heart was pale and flabby, quite empty of blood, the blood vessels, on the contrary, throughout the body were full of dark blood. The kidneys were flabby, and on section being made showed so pale as to be almost white. Blood from the thorax, as also from the much distended portal vein and from the femoral vein of the injected limb, was examined, but no trace of bacteria could be seen; nothing was visible under the microscope but corpuscles and the debris of corpuscles. The blood was thoroughly broken down; scarce a corpuscle preserved its normal shape, and many of them might easily have been taken for rather thick bacilli.

The contents of the stomach diluted with distilled water and magnified a thousand diameters showed some extremely minute points in which it was thought just possible motion was seen, but if well developed bacilli had been detected it would have proved but little or nothing, as it is not unreasonable to suppose that putrefaction had set in in a mass of vegetable tissue kept undigested at a temperature of above 102° Fahr. There were not any bacteria in the urine, which was normal in appearance, and on being tested *gave no trace of albumen*.

It was now evident that we could produce death very surely and very quickly by the injection of chicken soup, &c. cultivated at a *high temperature* with any sort of mould, provided the mould had not been previously sterilized, as by mixing with fresh lime, and also with decaying portions of the human body, even when the body had been dead for so long a time as two years, and it was also proved that a raw solution of the human body, whether the person had died of yellow fever or from some other cause, would kill also; but we think it will be seen that we had no grounds for saying that we had in a single instance reproduced yellow fever.

We are aware that it has been stated that "putrefactive" bacteria subcutaneously injected into a healthy animal will not cause death, but the results of these experiments go to prove that cultivation even of ordinary garden mould in soup at a high temperature has its virulence so increased that death quickly follows on its injection, a very severe form of blood poisoning being set up if the injection is made while the bacteria are in the active state.

We reserve to ourselves the further investigation of the toxic properties of solutions in which bacteria have been developed at high temperatures.

We got the same results from grave mould, field mould, the flesh of a yellow fever subject, and that of a person who had died from a different cause, and while we do not claim as yet to have absolutely shown that yellow fever graves are *not* what Dr. Freire says they are, "centres of infection," we are of opinion that the result of this lengthy series of carefully conducted experiments, of which little more than an abstract account is given above, *points in that direction.*

It may also perhaps be taken as probable that fresh lime placed on and about the coffins of persons who have died of infectious diseases will effectually prevent any disease germs, if such exist, from reaching the upper soil. Nothing was clearer or perhaps more remarkable throughout the whole series of experiments than the action, or rather inaction, of the moulds from limed graves upon the media in which they had been placed for development.

Time after time earth from immediately above the lime on which it had lain for two years failed to impregnate the liquid in which it had been put, and failed at any temperature. As this is a matter of some importance we hope soon to enter upon a series of experiments with limed earths, and thus to do something to settle the question which we raise, as to whether the presence, in large quantity, of fresh lime is destructive to the germs of bacterial life in mould.

And now with more immediate reference to Dr. Freire's communications to the Press, and his pamphlet "Etudes expérimentales sur la contagion de la Fièvre Jaune," &c., we would beg leave with all due respect to say that there seems to be a possibility that a certain fixedness of the idea that yellow fever is

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caused by the development in the blood of the sick person of a "being" (which he speaks of as a microbius, a micrococcus, or an algae) has taken possession of his mind and perhaps warped his judgment in the consideration of the facts he has observed.

So far back as 1862 the discovery of bacteria in the blood of yellow fever patients was announced, but little further was heard on the subject till Dr. J. G. Richardson stated that during the prevalence of the epidemic of yellow fever in the Southern United States of America in 1879 he had found "dumb-bell bacteria" in the blood of persons sick with that disease, other observers, however, not finding any bacteria, or not finding them invariably. This was followed up by the publication in 1881 of Dr. Freire's work "Recueil des travaux chimiques," &c., in which the author announced the discovery by him of "microbii,' in the blood of yellow fever patients during the epidemic that prevailed in Rio Janeiro in the preceding year; and further stated that he had found exactly similar microbii in cocoanut milk and in butter, this latter discovery leading him to believe that yellow fever was introduced into the system through the digestive organs.

Dr. Freire followed up this work by publishing certain letters in the Brazilian newspapers in the month of April this year, and by printing in July last the pamphlet above spoken of (Etudes expérimentales, &c.), in which latter work it is plainly stated that the author produced yellow fever by inoculating guinea pigs, &c. not only with blood direct from the fever patient, but also by inoculating with a cultivation of mould from Jurujuba cemetery, in which those who had died of yellow fever a year before had been buried.

We may here remark that, while we assert our belief that the invariable presence of bacterial forms of life in the blood of yellow fever patients has not yet been satisfactorily proved, even if that were done there would still remain the question whether such bacteria were the cause of the disease or *merely the effect of it.*

There would remain at least the possibility that the latter was really the case. Certainly, if absolute reliance may be placed upon Dr. Freire's experiments, this question may be considered as settled, but we believe we have shown that the experiments need confirmation before they can be finally accepted. But to return, Dr. Freire states in pp. 30, 31 of his last work that he has seen in grave mould taken from a few inches below the surface "yellow masses filled with granulations, &c., masses due to the "pigmentary substance of the cells which were to be seen, some "of them grey, some black or fringed with a black aureola." We give this passage in the doctor's own words:—

"Mais, en l'examinant avec un microscope augmentant de 740 diamètres, et prenant toutes les précautions pour prevenir les causes d'erreur, nous avons trouvé des myriades de microbes exactement identiques à ceux trouvés dans les vomissements, dans l'urine, dans le sang et les autres liquides organiques provenant des personnes atteintes de la fièvre jaune; le sont des cellules de

cryptococcus zanthogenicus dans les différentes phases de leur développement, depuis la grandeur d'un point noir difficile à apercevoir dans le champs du microscope, jusqu'a celle de corpuscles ronds, plus ou moins volumineux, réfractant fortement la lumière, quelques uns d'entre eux étant cendrés, tandis que d'autres étaient entièrement noirs, ou entourés d'une auréole noire . . . . . Des masses jaunes remplis de granulations étaient également visibles, masses dûes a la substance pigmentaire des cellules ; en dehors de cela, des portions noires, débris des cryptococci, furent observées."

Had Dr. Freire been a tyro with the microscope we should have been inclined to explain the appearance of these cells with their colours and fringes and aureolas as the result of bad management of the light or careless focussing of the instrument, but seeing that the "Chemical News" looks upon the author as possibly one of the greatest benefactors of the human race, and that the "Lancet" anticipates with pleasure the continuation of the account of his experiments, we can only confess ourselves completely puzzled. We can find microbii in the mould from yellow fever graves, but we can find them in the mould from any other grave, and we can find them also in abundance in any vegetable soil whatever, but to us these microbii are all alike ; we can discover no difference between the micrococcus from a grave and that from a garden.

As to micrococci producing in the soil masses coloured yellow, &c., &c., and thus, we suppose, eventually changing the colour of the mould itself, we confess we have never seen anything like this, and so far as our experience goes we are not justified in supposing we shall ever meet with these masses, yellow, full of granulations and "owing their colour to the pigmentary substance of the cells." We could find no such masses even in the flesh of one who had died of yellow fever, nor did the micrococci present in this substance appear at all different from those we found in the putrefying liver above spoken of, or in the garden mould, and this although we used in this investigation microscopes and lenses by one of the best English makers, our highest power, a $\frac{1}{10}$ inch lens by R. and J. Beck, giving a remarkably clear definition.

While speaking on this subject, we may remark that the doctor had at least the chance of coming to a different conclusion from that by which he so firmly stands ; we read on page 34 of his pamphlet, that, prompted by a hint in the "Gazeta de Noticias," he had examined microscopically a little earth from an excavation which had been made in one of the streets of Rio and had found in this earth the "characteristic organisms of yellow fever." This might have shaken a man of less fixedness of idea, but its only effect on Dr. Freire is to produce the remark "ceci un doit nulle- "ment nous étonner, l'épidémic se trouvant répandue par toute "la ville," and he gets quite over any difficulty there might have been by adding, "Mais le nombre de ces organismes était très

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So also with reference to a previous statement of our author, vide his "Recueil des Travaux Chimiques, &c.," 1881, that he found similar microbii in cocoanut milk and butter to those he had discovered in the blood of a yellow fever patient, this, which we think, in most observers, would have raised a question as to whether what was seen alike in the blood, the cocoanut milk, and the butter were germs of yellow fever or merely *those of putrifactive bacteria*, especially as putrefaction would set in rapidly in the climate of Rio, only persuades Dr. Freire that yellow fever is introduced into the system through the digestive organs.

As to the cause of death in Dr. Freire's guinea pigs, our author admits that the air of his laboratory, at least towards the end of his experiments, was so bad that his pigs died rapidly without putting him to the trouble of inoculating them at all. It is true the doctor supposed it was yellow fever germs which made the air unwholesome, but that is quite a debatable matter.

The guinea pig is a delicate animal and needs abundance of pure air and good food if it is to be kept in good health, so it is scarcely to be wondered at that a pig shut up for five days in a *heated stove* should have died.

We may state that we *found it necessary* to keep the pigs we experimented with at the private house of one of us where they were kept in a verandah, and allowed for some time every day to *run freely about the house and grounds.* It may be added that it was found impossible to keep the children from playing with the little animals, and that for at least the last two months during which our investigation was being carried on the injected pigs and these children spent a great part of each day together *without any illness resulting.*

It was during this time too that we were injecting with the yellow fever subject's flesh. It need scarcely be said that this helps to confirm us in the belief that we did not produce that disease in any of the pigs.

Then as to the temperature of the guinea pigs experimented on by Dr. Freire, we find that of one quoted as 38° C. before injection, while that of another is given as 39 · 1° C.

Now our experience is, that the temperature of *healthy* guinea pigs is *constant*, just as that of healthy men is, and we do not see how our author's pigs could be in good health, and at the same time show such difference of temperature as 2° Fahr.

There seems to be here either a new physiological fact or else a carelessness of observation which would go far to invalidate the results obtained.

Again we read on page 47 of the pamphlet of M. Augusto Cœsar, an assistant of Dr. Freire, that he "est parvenu à " produire dans une solution de gélatine dans l'eau commune, des " cultures présentant toutes les garanties de pureté, comme on

" peut le remarquer sur la figure qui se trouve a la fin de ce " travail." BARBADOS.

We would remark here that unless " common water " be of great purity a drop of it will often suffice to sow a plentiful crop of microbes in soup or any other good nidus, and therefore a cultivation of any special germs in a solution of which common water forms a part should be looked upon with distrust. As regards the plate itself however at the end of the book, it may be said that there is *nothing to be seen in it* that could not be seen any day in a cultivation of *ordinary vegetable mould;* any mould that we have seen would have produced many well refined bacilli *in addition* to the micrococci depicted, that is the *only difference.* We cannot forget, either, that a cultivation of ordinary field mould produced as bright a yellow in the liquid in which it was developed as the flesh of the yellow fever subject, and we are unwilling to adopt a similar hypothesis to Dr. Freire's and say that the soil of the whole island is saturated with yellow fever.

Once again, and this will close our comments as far as immediate reference to Dr. Freire's theory and works is concerned. We note that on page 11 of the pamphlet the notion that " black vomit " is formed by broken down blood is, one might say, ridiculed, and the theory is advanced *as proved* that this matter is " due to the " microbes of the disease," and it is further stated that by the cultivation of a " little drop of ' ptomaine ' in gelatine " " black vomit " may be produced.

Now as we have not had any opportunity, since entering upon this investigation, of examining the material of " black vomit " we make no positive assertion as to its composition, but negatively we may say that the idea that it is composed of microbes and the " detritus " of microbes does not seem at all a probable one, and we would venture to ask, if this be so, how is it that black (vomit?) is found only in the stomach? If all the blood vessels are full of microbes, and it is these microbes that form black vomit, why is not a similar matter found in these blood vessels and in the bladder, &c.? Why do the microbes make a special assembly hall of the stomach?

And as for producing black vomit artificially, we can only say that so far we have failed to produce anything like it by the cultivation of the flesh itself of a yellow fever subject in a mixture of chicken soup and blood, in chicken soup alone, or in a mixture of gelatine and phosphates.

With one of the experiments detailed by Dr. Freire our own results partially agree. It is that spoken of on page 37 of the pamphlet. We found that when the cultivation of a mould or of flesh was allowed to stand in the regulator till the bacteria began to assume the " still " condition, an injection made then with the liquid produced but a temporary illness, and that after recovery from this the pig was able to withstand injection with the most virulent culture, and one rapidly fatal to a pig which had not undergone a previous inoculation with the over-developed fluid.

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In saying this, however, we wish to guard against its being supposed that in either case we had yellow fever to deal with. As this is a matter which may prove to be of some importance we hope to continue our observations on the subject.

In making the foregoing remarks we are actuated solely by a desire to have the actual secret of this mysterious malady discovered; we believe that Dr. Freire is at one with us in this, and in wishing that the absolute truth should be known, and we are convinced that he will agree with us that no false modesty or hollow courtesy should prevent an observer from noticing any defects which he believes he sees in another observer's "modus operandi" or arguments. As our only object is to come at the truth as it is, we shall be glad if we are shown any mistakes in our own mode of procedure or any false inferences in our deductions, and shall start afresh with the determination to cheerfully give what little help we can towards the solution of one of the most interesting problems of the day.

It is scarcely too much to say that yellow fever continues to be at the present time an unsolved, though we are far from believing an insoluble, problem. Men skilled to profit by the aids of modern science, and willing to devote time and labour to the work, while laying aside all physical fear may hope under Divine Providence to trace this enemy of mankind to its last hiding-place, and, if not to kill it, at least to draw its poisonous fangs.

It will be seen that in the foregoing pages we have confined ourselves chiefly to the question as to whether the graves of persons who die of yellow fever are centres of infection or not. From what we have written it will appear evident that the result of our experiments goes to prove they are not; but on the general question and outside our own peculiar work we beg leave to remark, that it is a well known fact that during the epidemic of 1879 more than 3,000 bodies were buried in a cemetery within the town of New Orleans. Many of these bodies of yellow fever patients were covered with but a few inches of earth (6 inches was the depth of covering in many cases, given by the New Orleans correspondent of the "Lancet"), and many others were "buried" above ground in brick vaults. Now if it be allowed to Dr. Freire that these graves are "perennial foci of death" how can New Orleans and the Southern States generally escape an epidemic, at least on the return of every hot season? Barbados has suffered from this disease ever since it became peopled by whites. So early as 1734 yellow fever raged so violently that the survivors were at last content to throw the bodies of their deceased friends into the so-called "river" above the old bridge, until some people died simply from drinking the polluted water (which formed at that time the chief supply of Bridgetown), and Government compelled them to dispose of the corpses differently. The old graveyards of the island must every one of them have had many bodies of those who died of yellow fever buried in them, and buried at different times; none of the islanders ever were

prevented, nor are they to the present day prevented, by any fear of the consequences from opening an old grave, and yet we never heard of a fresh outbreak being traced to such a source. Indeed if the opening of an old yellow fever grave were in itself sufficient to cause that disease to spread afresh, it might be said the island could never have been free from it.

To multiply such questions and arguments would be easy, but our object is not to confute Dr. Freire but to get at the facts of the case.

We do not wish to enter here into a discussion of the history of the disease or to fight again the well fought battle of the contagionists against the non-contagionists. We content ourselves with stating the theory that we believe, in view of all the apparently contradictory facts of the case, to be the most reasonable, and that, if not generally accepted now, will be when the history of the disease is thoroughly known, and when the apparently contradictory facts are compared and given each their due weight, namely, that yellow fever is a highly contagious disease, but that the germs, whatever they may be, require some time and suitable opportunity for their development before they can reproduce themselves in another body; and that thus the disease is not at least generally communicable from a sick person to another who may be in ever so close proximity to him.

As there is no disease about the origin and cause of which so little is known as yellow fever, so there is none about which so much controversy has arisen, disputation and knowledge having preserved towards each other for more than 200 years an inverse ratio. That this is so will not appear surprising when a very few of the apparently contradictory "recorded facts" are considered.

Dr. Pfirth of Philadelphia injected his arm with blood from a yellow fever patient during the greatest epidemic in that city in 1793, and, unlike Dr. Freire's rabbit, suffered not the least ill effects. He also drank some of the "black vomit" and was in no wise the worse. Dr. May dropped some black vomit into his eyes and experienced no inconvenience. This same experiment was tried in Demerara in comparatively recent times, and then caused a slight ophthalmia and inflammation but nothing further.

White troops suffering from yellow fever have been again and again removed to Barbados from Berbice, St. Kitts, &c. without introducing the disease. Such facts, and perhaps still stronger ones (such as sexual connexion having taken place between healthy persons and yellow fever patients without the communication of the disease), could be multiplied indefinitely in favour of the non-contagionists, but an equal array of striking and indisputable facts, such as the introduction of yellow fever into Madrid in 1878–9 by soldiers brought from Cuba, and many well certified cases of the transportation of the disease during the epidemic in the Southern United States in 1879, &c., can be adduced on the contagionist side, so that it is not a matter for surprise if many

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have come to the conclusion that there are several diseases which because they are alike in some of their symptoms have been classed together as yellow fever, but which are really distinct—one, the true yellow fever, being highly contagious and the others not.

The differences between medical men as to the proper course of treatment to be pursued with reference to this malady have been as great and as numerous as those of their theories as to the nature of the malady itself. One celebrated physician upheld the merits of copious bleedings; another pinned his faith on large doses of mercury; a third insisted on a combination of both remedies, and so on. From these drastic measures down to Dr. Bone's celebrated "Seidlitz treatment," every sort of "cure" has been adopted, and, according to their various authors, each with remarkable success.

The result, however, of 200 years' practice and empiric treatment was clearly shown during the recent epidemic in this island when every "remedy" tried proved perhaps equally unsuccessful.

The opinion of one of the leading physicians here is that the "remedies" adopted were quite useless, and another medical man—in despair, we presume—took a novel course in "leaving the sick to nature"; this method, however, not meeting with much more or less success than any other.

Beyond all other diseases this fever is especially fatal to unacclimatised persons, it in fact gives them no chance; there is therefore but little probability that an efficient man will venture to come from Europe to an infected district or island for the purpose of investigating this disease, and there is still less probability that if any one should do so he will live to make a report.

Nor can it be expected that a physician will devote three or four years of his life to acclimatising himself by residence in the West Indies in a healthy island.

The West Indian physicians cannot spare the great amount of time and labour necessary for such an inquiry, and this must be our excuse for trespassing in a domain not strictly belonging to either of us, although as one has been for two years a medical student at home, and the other is a skilled analytical chemist, while both are familiar from long practice with the working of first class microscopes, and with histological science, we venture to hope that we are not ill prepared for the work we have undertaken, and that our attempt to contribute towards the knowledge of this deeply important subject may meet with approval.

As to the matter which may at present almost be said to be in dispute between Dr. Freire and us, the "infecto-contagious" nature of the mould of graves in which persons who die of yellow fever are buried, we are far from supposing that on it we have said the last word.

We confined our experiments to one species of animal because the doctor stated that he had repeatedly induced yellow fever in

animals of that species; before, however, his conclusions can be firmly established or completely overthrown experiments on other animals must be tried.

There are several other points also on which we propose to continue our investigations, although as far as finding the cause and studying the development of this plague, and so preparing the way for the discovery of an efficient remedy, we fear from our past experience that we shall be able to do but little with only grave mould to work upon and dead bodies.

We are every day more inclined to believe that in order to obtain decisive and valuable results the disease must be boldly and carefully studied while it is virulently active in its worst or epidemic form.

Should an opportunity be given us of undertaking such an inquiry during the prevalence of an epidemic we shall gladly avail ourselves of it with the humble hope that our efforts may be of service to the cause of humanity and science.

(Signed) J. H. SUTTON MOXLY, B.A.,
Chaplain to the Forces.
J. B. HARRISON, B.A.,
Island Professor of Chemistry, &c.

His Excellency
Sir William Robinson, K.C.M.G.,
Governor, &c.

The experiments mentioned above were conducted in the Government Laboratory, Barbados. The temperature of the laboratory during the experiments varied from (minimum) 79° to (maximum) 89°, mean temperature 82°. Temperature in self-regulating developing box (minimum) 98·4° (maximum) 99° Fahr.

(Initialled) J. H. S. M.
J. B. H.

BRITISH HONDURAS.

BRITISH HONDURAS.

No. 7.

ADMINISTRATOR FOWLER to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY.

Government House, Belize,
September 27, 1883.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Blue Book for the year 1882, with an accompanying report thereon. The Blue Book has been delayed in consequence of the returns being printed at the suggestion of the Lieutenant-Governor Sir R. Harley instead of being sent home in manuscript as formerly. This improvement, it is hoped may be considered to compensate for the delay, which need not occur again as the forms are now permanently set up in type.

REPORT.

Taxes, Duties, &c.

Are the same as in the previous year of 1881.

Fees.

Additional Schedules have been furnished and the Return now includes all fees receivable and the authority for levying the same.

Revenue and Expenditure.

A re-adjustment of the tariff took place in 1878; a comparison therefore of the revenue for three years prior, with three years subsequent, to that date will show the effect of the changes made.

Revenue.

	£
1875	41,844
1876	40,231
1877	41,588
1880	41,644
1881	43,642
1882	46,384

The favorable increase in the two last years is due to an increased duty on rum of 50 per cent. and to a better system of collecting the duty provided by Ordinance No. 5 of 1881.

This may be seen from the following—

	The estimated duty was	Actually received.
	£	£
For 1880	4,000	7,936
„ 1881	5,600	8,305
„ 1882	8,000	7,548

Last year the price of mahogany, the staple export of the Colony, nearly doubled itself, so that extra gangs were organised to cut it, hence more capital was employed and increased importations of supplies followed. Capital was also forthcoming in developing the fruit trade, and many settlers who were living a life of uselessness, finding there was a market for fruit by means of the subsidised steamers buying their products for New Orleans, set to work at their plantations to grow fruit beyond that required for their own consumption. This state of affairs favorably affected the revenue and if it continues, and there is no apparent reason why it should not, the revenue of the Colony may be fairly calculated on a basis of 45,000*l.* a year.

The Customs revenue exceeded the previous year's receipts by 2,508*l.* 9*s.* 5*d.* and the Land revenue produced an extra 1,194*l.* 0*s* 5*d.*, principally from increased sale of lands.

The postal receipts are yearly increasing from a greater intercourse between the United States and the Colony in consequence of the fruit trade.

Expenditure.

This naturally varies according to the extent of the public works being carried on. For the ordinary current purposes of the Government a sum of about 44,000*l.* is required, the estimated amount for 1882 being 44,293*l.* This includes the military contribution of 5,000*l.*

As the Colony develops it is to be expected, as is generally the case elsewhere, that its expenditure will increase. During the last decade, for instance, the increase appears as follows :—

	£
1870	26,220
1871	25,453
1872	29,350
1880	42,922
1881	40,712
1882	44,500

The principal additional expenditure for 1882 was an increased subsidy of 600*l.* paid for an additional mail service between New Orleans and Belize, the contractors sending steamers every ninth and twelfth day instead of once in every three weeks as formerly. 769*l.* was incurred as extra police expenses in consequence of Indian troubles, and 2,178*l.* was spent on new Public Buildings at Corosal.

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Public Debt.

There is none, but the assets and liabilities of the Colony may be shortly stated as follows:—

On 31st March 1883 there was a cash balance of 14,216*l.* 18*s.* 2*d.*, against which there is a debt due to the War Office of 17,333*l.* 3*s.* 8*d.*, interest on which is payable at the rate of four per cent. so long as the second company of troops is retained in the Colony.

Public Works.

The expenditure under this head was 6,534*l.* 15*s.*, chiefly for ordinary repairs. 538*l.* 17*s.* was expended in building a house for a magistrate and police quarters in the Western district, and 1,140*l.* 9*s.* 9*d.* for new buildings at Corosal. A new iron shed at the landing wharf in Belize was also erected at a cost of 683*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.*

Legislation.

Beyond the ordinary supply and some amending Ordinances, laws were passed—prohibiting burials in authorised places within the town of Belize—to facilitate the purchase of lands for public purposes—to provide for the maintenance of the Law Library—and to prevent frauds upon creditors by secret bills of sale of personal chattels.

Civil Establishment.

Colonel Sir Robert Harley was appointed Administrator of the Government on Sir F. Barlee's departure from the Colony on leave of absence.

Major-General Turton acted as Colonial Secretary during Mr. Fowler's absence on leave. Mr. Alvan Millson was appointed Private Secretary and Clerk of Councils.

Messrs. Travers and Orgill were appointed Magistrates for the new districts, the Western and Toledo respectively.

The new appointment of Surgeon, Corosal, was filled by Dr. Montray. In the Customs Department Messrs. Broadbridge, Hunter, Troncosa, and Torallo were appointed revenue and excise officers.

Consuls.

Mr. Morlan was appointed Consul for the United States, and Mr. Melhado for Germany and Guatemala.

Population.

The population by census of 1881 was enumerated at 27,452. There is no registration of births or deaths, and the question

arises whether the time has not arrived for some system to be introduced, at least in the larger towns, for a wide field for crime appears to be open, especially in a place where ideas of morality are not of the strictest character. Marriages alone are required to be registered.

Miscellaneous Numerical Returns.

The Savings Banks appear to be better appreciated. There were 284 depositors with deposits amounting to 5,493*l.* 19*s.* on the 31st December 1882, against 180 and 4,295*l.* 11*s.* 3*d.* in 1880.

The paupers in the Colony amount to 16 in the poorhouse and 13 who receive outdoor relief of two shillings a week.

Education.

The number of scholars on the rolls of schools receiving Government aid increased by 107, and the expenditure was 25*l.* in excess of that for 1881. The cost of education to the Colony was 1,641*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*

The great drawback to more successful results is the want of regular teachers, and the language difficulty also operates adversely, but the gradual improvement of more recent years is maintained. If a few trained teachers could be obtained from England, or a training institute be organised in the Colony, the benefits to the scholars as well as to the Colony at large would be very great. A practical suggestion would be for the Government to guarantee a salary of not less than 50*l.* a year—a bare living out here—to a properly certificated schoolmaster or mistress from any of the denominational institutions, with a percentage according to attendances of pupils and results of examinations, so that any extra income is made to depend upon the exertions and success of the teachers themselves.

Exchanges, Moneys, &c.

The rate of exchange on England ranged from 5 to 10, and on the United States from 12 to 15, per cent. The silver coins of Mexico and the Central American Republics make up the chief currency of the Colony, and are current at the rate of four shillings to the dollar. Whereas their intrinsic value is much less, consequently the depreciation of 10 to 15 per cent. has to be put on to the price of goods, which is paid for by the consumer. The smallest coin is one eighth of a dollar with the exception of a few half dimes and quarters; copper or nickel coins representing one and two cents would be a great boon to the poorer class of people and smaller traders.

BRITISH HONDURAS.

The following movements of specie, bullion, &c., collected from the import and export tables may be interesting:—

—	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
England - - - - -	—	1,734
United States - - - -	8,637	17,625
Central America - - - -	320	2,624
Gold dust - - - - -	510	—
	9,467	21,983

Imports and Exports.

There was an increase of imports of 31,071*l.* over 1881, and the excess of exports was 23,230*l.*

Imports.

—	1881.	1882.
	£	£
England - - - - -	109,552	117,783
United States - - - -	81,652	99,649

Exports.

—	1880.	1881.
	£	£
England - - - -	137,510	133,977
United States - - - -	53,658	65,495

The trade between the Colony and the United States is showing a steady increase owing to steam communication with New Orleans and the gradual development of the fruit trade. In 1872, for the sake of comparison, the figures were as follows:—

—	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
England - - - -	113,574	105,998
United States - - - -	42,497	33,708

The principal imports consist of, from—

—	England.	United States.
	£	£
Cotton goods - - - -	14,622	6,821
Drapery, &c. - - - -	9,981	685
Flour - - - - -	2	14,098
Hardware, Cutlery, &c. - - -	5,394	2,459
Sundries - - - - -	8,081	6,407
Beef and pork - - - -	—	11,871
Malt liquors - - - - -	3,144	832
Liquors - - - - -	5,683	152
Wines - - - - -	3,840	331

The above figures indicate the relative nature and value of the trade of the Colony with England and the United States.

The position of the Colony as a depôt of trade for the surrounding countries is shown by the following figures:—

—	Imports from.	Exports to.
	£	£
Central American States - - -	12,120	34,311
Mexico - - - - -	1,775	11,892

The chief articles are:—

Imports.		Exports.	
	£		£
Coffee - - -	1,257	Cotton goods - -	11,211
Indian Hats - -	284	Drapery, &c. - -	1,961
Rubber - - -	4,175	Fancy goods - -	836
Sarsaparilla - -	834	Guns, &c. gunpowder -	1,873
Cigars - - -	1,688	Salt - - -	622
Cattle - - -	2,098	Soap - - -	1,304
Tortoise shell - -	344	Sundries - -	4,115
Gold dust - - -	510	Beer - - -	505
		Brandy - - -	1,598
		Rum - - -	818
		Sugar - - -	574
		Wines - - -	1,108

10,358*l.* of cotton goods were exported to Mexico.

The recent direct steam communication causes importations and exports to be made direct to surrounding countries instead of goods going through Belize as formerly.

The value of the transit trade in 1872, was 93,510*l.*; in 1882, it was 46,203*l.*; and 5 per cent. on the difference represents so much less to the merchants in commissions.

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The quantities of the staple products of the Colony exported are as follows:

		1880.	1881.	1882.
Mahogany - - -	Feet	2,196,751	2,665,729	3,900,549
Cedar, &c. - - -	„	241,167	199,836	264,948
Logwood - - -	Tons	17,057	17,541	18,091
Sugar - - -	„	2,807	1,930	2,572
Fruit - - -	Bunches	8,958	22,229	25,684
Cocoanuts - - -	Number	1,623,817	1,421,817	1,209,658
Plantains - - - -		177,000	323,700	52,000

The extra price for mahogany stimulates production, so that, with good prices for logwood and a market for fruit, the year 1882 has been a prosperous one for the Colony. There is plenty of wood, it only has to be got out, and there is a fertile virgin soil which only requires cultivation.

As long therefore as returns justify the outlay, and as capital and labour is invested, so will the Colony develop and progress in prosperity.

The character of the shipping and its increase may be seen from the return hereunder :—

	Entered.	
	Sailing Vessels.	Steamers.
1878 - - -	301	18
1882 - - -	363	87

Agriculture.

Mr. Morris, the Director of the Government Plantations in Jamaica, was invited to visit the Colony "for the purpose of inquiring into its flora, and the natural resources of its soil," and it seems that an extract on the subject from a paper* read by Mr. Morris before the members of the Colonial Institute in June last, will convey the best information on this subject.

"Besides several large sugar estates in good order, numerous cocoa-nut and banana plantations are being established along the banks of the rivers to the south, many of them by small local

* *See* page 137 of [C.—3794] August 1883.

companies with capitals ranging from 2,000*l.* to 5,000*l.* Steamers from New Orleans periodically call at the principal settlements, and take off the produce, paying high rates in cash as soon as deposited on board.

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"One of the most interesting spots visited in this journey was the Toledo settlement, established several years ago by settlers from the Southern States of America. About fourteen families came here and took up their quarters in the virgin forest, with little or no capital. But, by undaunted courage and perseverance in overcoming the first difficulties, they have succeeded in establishing comfortable homesteads, and in placing under cultivation, chiefly in sugar-cane, some six hundred acres of land. The results of this experiment are in many respects very suggestive. Although, in tropical countries as a rule, and especially, as in this case, at sea-level, the white man is not suited for hard laborious work in the sun, and it is better for him to possess capital and to employ negroes and coolies, yet it speaks well for the climate of British Honduras that the white settlers at the Toledo settlement, which is by no means exceptionally placed, should by their own hands have turned a wild tropical forest into a number of rich and prosperous plantations. Most of the settlers, at present, grow sugar-cane, and manufacture the produce into common Muscovado sugar in open pans. The quality of the sugar is exceptionally good, most of which is sold locally at prices ranging from 5 to 6 cents per pound.

"I returned from the southern settlements deeply impressed with the vast natural resources of the country, and the great future which lies before it when properly opened.

"I next visited the central and western districts of the Colony. This country generally, with the exception of a few isolated ranges, rises so very gradually, from the sea coast to the interior, that points on the western frontier nearly one hundred miles from the coast are only three hundred feet high. This low, gently sloping land is also plentifully intersected by deep navigable rivers which flow slowly towards the sea. Along the banks of these rivers the characteristics of the soil and climate were of a most favourable character, and the vegetation essentially tropical and luxuriant. On further acquaintance with the interior portions of the country I found that the alluvial deposits along the river banks, extending some five or six, or in some instances some ten miles on each side, contained, chiefly, the rich valuable soils of the Colony. Beyond these were 'broken lands' and 'pine ridges.'

"The most important, as well as the richest river valley in the Colony is that of the Old River, sometimes called the Belize River. This extends in a wide sinuous course from the town of Belize at the sea coast to the western frontier. In the upper portions, the valley widens into broad expanses of rich fertile plains covered by cohune palm, in some cases thirty or forty miles in breadth. I carefully examined this district, and worked my way to the frontier station—the Cayo—near which a coffee plan-

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tation has recently been established. With the exception of some six sugar estates, and the same number of banana plantations, this coffee plantation is the only attempt hitherto made to establish a systematic course of culture in the Colony, the bulk of the people being employed, and the chief trade of the Colony depending, upon mahogany and logwood cutting, which, when good prices are ruling, are apparently very remunerative industries.

"In the forests of the western districts I found the rubber-tree of Central America (Castilloa elastica) very abundant. This tree (a member of the breadfruit family) is specially suitable for cultivation, on account of its prefering a loamy, sandy soil; and being a deep feeder it might be utilised as a shade tree in cultivated areas with great advantage. Trees at ten years old yield from four to seven pounds of rubber, which is valued at from 2*s.* 3*d.* to 3*s.* per pound. If carefully managed, the trees can be tappede very three or four years.

"Another interesting plant, found wild in these forests, was the indigenous cacao of Central America: this differed from all kinds I had met previously. After careful inquiry, I found that it was the Tampasco cacao of the Atlantic slopes, and identical with the celebrated Socunusco cacao of the Pacific coast. In habit and character the trees approach those of the Cacao Criollo, and an examination of the pods, which are of a golden-yellow colour, led me to the conclusion that this Tampasco, or "Socunusco" cacao, is the yellow form of the celebrated "Caracas" cacao. Should such prove to be the case, there is little doubt that this yellow variety will prove as much superior to the red (Caracas) form, as the yellow Forastero does to the red (Trinidad) cacao.

"Many other interesting plants of timber and dye woods, as well as of plants of medicinal and economic value, were met, many of which, I have no doubt, are capable of being utilised both in British Honduras and in other British possessions."

Grants of Land.

Crown lands are being disposed of as under:—

	Number of Grants.	Number of Acres granted.
1880 - - -	265	1,462
1881 - - -	155	2,575
1882 - - -	51	3,013

The above numbers include grants for town lots as well. The difficulties of survey are great, and the general working of the Crown Lands Ordinance is under the consideration of a board appointed to report on the subject.

Gaols and Prisoners.

A new district prison was established in the western district and one is to be established at Punda Gorda in the Toledo district, otherwise there is little else to call for remark here.

Criminal Statistics.

There is a considerable difference in the number of offences compared with the two preceding years, and it is gratifying to notice the falling off; but when times are prosperous and every one who chooses can be profitably employed there is every reason to expect less incentives to crime.

Prædial larceny is on the increase, as there are more provision grounds and plantations to steal from, besides there is now an available market for the products of the plantations. The larceny of logwood is carried on to a considerable extent and special means seem necessary to be taken to check it.

Hospitals, Asylums, and Poorhouse.

These establishments have undergone no alteration, nor do they require notice, except a new Poorhouse is a necessity, for the present one is certainly unfit for use. There are 16 inmates; nine in male ward, and seven in female ward. The cubical contents of the male ward are 8,203 ft. and of the female 3,955 ft., giving average space of $\frac{911}{565}$ ft. respectively, whereas the usua allowance is from 900 to 1,000 ft.

General Remarks.

The year 1882 can be reckoned as a good year, and if the high prices of mahogany and logwood are maintained the same prospects may be anticipated. The cultivation of the soil is gradually increasing in extent, and capital to a limited amount is being devoted to the growth of fruit, the production of which yields favorable returns to the grower. All the available labour of the Colony is fully employed, and coolies migrate here from Jamaica on being offered a free passage and better wages than they receive there.

The coolies like the Colony, are satisfied with their treatment, otherwise they would not voluntarily resort to the place.

With only a population of 27,000 and but little unemployed capital the development of the Colony cannot be more rapid.

Enthusiasts are fond of assertions and do not hesitate to venture the most glowing statements, but until more capital or labour is introduced into the Colony, it must be plain to common sense people that the progress of the Colony will be limited according to the means that are available for developing its resources.

As Indian affairs are alluded to in previous years' reports, perhaps it is only necessary here to mention that some troubles occurred, and collisions with the Ycaiché tribe of Indians seemed

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probable. Some parties living in the Colony were arrested and tried on a charge of treason felony in connexion with these Indians. They were found guilty and sentenced to penal servitude.

All trade was stopped with the Indians, but friendly relations were established afterwards, and nothing has occurred since to disturb the present understanding that has been arrived at.

Attempts at settlements have also been alluded to in former reports, and whether it has been the fault of the settlers themselves or of the climate the fact has to be recorded that the attempts have all proved failures.

The Italians preferred town to country life.

The Texans could not induce their wives and families to remain, and they have all left, and the Germans are represented by one solitary settler, who has given up his vegetarian habits for a more exhilirating diet.

Some coloured settlers from the Bay Islands have been granted free lots of land and have commenced operations. With their experience and being natives they cannot fail but to do well.

Their example I am glad to say is being followed by other settlers during the present year, from the same place.

The fertile virgin soil of the Colony only awaits the proper hands to cultivate it to yield a hundred fold to those who can surmount the difficulties in the way, and as the ploughshare succeeds the axe so will the Colony establish itself on a more permanent basis; for the cultivated soil yields its yearly crops, whereas the wild forest takes thirty to forty years to reproduce a mahogany tree, and fifteen years is requisite for a logwood shrub to grow to replace those that are carried off by the wood cutter.

The trade of the Colony will advance as the Colony and the neighbouring countries develop their resources, and the general security that Belize affords, will, it is hoped, constitute it the head-quarters of this part of the Carribean Sea.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Derby,
&c. &c.

(Signed) HENRY FOWLER,
Administrator.

GRENADA.

No. 8.

Governor Sir W. ROBINSON, K.C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY.

Barbados, December 28, 1883.

Forwarded.

The Right Hon. (Signed) WILLIAM ROBINSON.
The Earl of Derby,
&c. &c.

SIR, Government House, Grenada, November 30, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to transmit a report upon the Blue Book of 1882.

Taxes, Duties, Fees, &c.

2. In September 1881, Ordinances were proclaimed which varied and increased the tax on lands, and for licenses to keep animals, but these changes only took effect in 1882. The land tax was considerably increased; it formerly was—

For the first 100 acres - - -	1*s.*	per acre.
For the second 100 acres - -	3*d.*	„
For the acreage above the second 100 -	1*d.*	„

And it now is—

For every acre under cultivation -	1*s.* 6*d.*	per acre.
For every acre in pasture, or uncultivated - - - - -	6*d.*	„

The licenses to keep animals were formerly:—

For horses, mares and mules used for riding -	20*s.*
For asses used for riding - - -	5*s.*

And in 1882 these were—

For every stallion - - - -	40*s.*
For every mare or gelding - - -	10*s.*
For every mule used for riding - - -	10*s.*
For every ass - - - - -	5*s.*

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3. In September 1882 an Ordinance came into force removing the duty on the importation of coal; and earlier in the year the duty on sugar exported from the Colony was reduced as under:—

From 6*s.* to 4*s.* on a hogshead.
From 3*s.* to 2*s.* on a tierce; and
From 9*d.* to 6*d.* on a barrel.

These export duties are levied for immigration purposes.
No change was made in the fees of the Courts, or offices.

Revenue and Expenditure.

4. The revenue collected in 1882, as shown in the Blue Book was 42,452*l.*, but of this 600*l.* was a transfer from the Post Office afcount; which amount was afterwards disbursed for the service o the Post Office.

5. As compared with the collections of 1881, the duty on Rum showed an increase of 2,791*l.* This was due to the clearing of the Bonding warehouses at the close of the year to escape the payment of an additional shilling of duty with which Rum was to be charged on and after the 1st of January 1883. But for this the greater part of the additional duty would have fallen into the revenue of this year.

6. The effect of the liquor license Ordinance which came into force in September 1881 was to reduce the revenue of 1882 from this source by 525*l.* or 30 per cent. off the receipts of the previous year. I observe, too, that by an Ordinance passed in 1880 a reduction on former rates of nearly 27 per cent. had been made in 1881. Thus in two years about 1,200*l.* or 50 per cent. of revenue from liquor licenses has been given up.

7. The revenue from the land tax and license Ordinances which, as I have already mentioned, were passed in 1881, was very much in excess of that which had been derived under the former Acts which these Ordinances repealed. In 1881 the receipts were 4,910*l.*, and in 1882 6,450*l.*, or a gain of 1,540*l.* Formerly these receipts were placed together under the head of "Taxes"; in the past year the tax on lands is under the head of "Taxes," and that on animals under the head of "Licenses."

8. The receipts from fines and forfeitures and from sales were also larger than usual, owing to considerable seizures having been made for infringements of the Customs and Excise laws. The excess over the receipts of the previous year was 856*l.*

9. The expenditure in 1882 was 42,895*l.* I subjoin a comparative statement of the revenue, and of the expenditure in the years 1881 and 1882:—

Comparative Revenue.

Items of Revenue.	1881.			1882.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
Customs.						
Import duties	16,910	5	6	16,584	2	5
Warehouse rents	69	11	5	97	16	9
Tonnage	57	6	9	—		
Excise.						
Rum duty	6,903	18	10	9,694	15	0
Licenses.						
Retail Spirits:—						
Class 2	1,630	0	0	1,170	0	0
Class 3 and 4	125	0	0	60	0	0
Auctioneers	35	0	0	50	0	0
Firearms	20	15	0	50	0	0
Carriages and carts	65	5	0	27	0	0
Boats	5	19	6	7	5	6
Boatmen	3	12	0	8	4	0
Porters and Jobbers	3	10	0	5	18	0
Dogs	17	4	0	44	0	0
Stills	58	0	0	90	0	0
Dispenser	—			10	0	0
Stallions, mares, &c.	—			1,334	10	0
Sanitary.						
Medical rate	389	15	2	396	3	6
Dispensary sales	60	6	8	55	18	7
Taxes.						
Assessed	4,590	6	10	4,703	11	6
Do. by Marshal	319	16	7	412	4	8
Rents	296	12	2	575	12	2
Fees	67	13	0	62	7	3
Fines and forfeitures	909	14	3	1,355	5	10
Post office	350	8	3	448	7	4
Costs of escheat	—			56	14	1
Sales	39	7	11	450	1	7
Refunds	136	14	9	101	17	0
Contribution from immigration	600	0	0	600	0	0
Stamp Act	2,671	2	8	2,785	18	11
Maintenance, lunatics, St. Vincent, &c.	331	6	2	406	5	8
Instalment loan, Grenville harbour and interest	130	0	0	125	0	0
Writ of extent *re* "Kathleen"	—			38	18	10
Transfer from post office to general funds	—			600	0	0
Miscellaneous	377	9	9	244	13	8
Total	37,176	2	2	42,452	11	7

Comparative Expenditure.

Head of Expenditure.	1881.			1882.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
Ecclesiastical - - - -	934	0	0	900	6	2
Judicial - - - - -	3,630	1	11	4,034	0	10
Civil - - - - -	5,573	12	6	5,735	6	8
Education - - - - -	1,057	10	0	1,912	3	5
Sanitary - - - - -	2,500	11	7	2,699	16	10
Poor relief - - - - -	1,011	18	0	1,056	0	9
Police - - - - -	3,050	1	11	3,374	4	6
Medical - - - - -	5,775	1	6	5,775	16	3
Gaols and prisons - - - -	989	11	1	1,312	15	1
Works and repairs - - - -	9,954	1	7	11,569	3	5
Collection of taxes - - - -	139	5	0	144	1	2
Drawbacks - - - - -	9	13	11	54	11	1
Inland post - - - - -	368	19	2	313	9	8
Telegraph - - - - -	509	17	4	399	13	3
Printing and stationery - - -	705	13	1	637	18	4
Militia - - - - -	98	17	3	—		
Escheat - - - - -	219	15	7	141	17	1
Hire of Buildings - - - -	167	0	0	137	16	8
Ice subsidy - - - - -	129	6	3	145	3	6
Steam communication - - -	116	13	4	400	0	0
Census - - - - -	565	7	5	—		
Pensions and annuities - - -	476	5	0	649	15	7
Gratuities - - - - -	97	10	0	—		
Miscellaneous - - - -	1,315	15	8	1,501	13	5
Total - - -	39,396	9	1	42,895	13	8

10. The financial position of the Colony on the 1st January 1883, was as under stated, showing an excess of liabilities over assets of 2,261*l.* 13*s.* 10*d.*

Assets.	£	*s.*	*d.*	Liabilities.	£	*s.*	*d.*
Cash in hands of treasurer	783	15	0	Unpaid accounts - -	1,200	0	0
Held by colonial bank on account current - -	6,596	6	9	Due immigration fund -	2,500	0	0
Exchequer bills in the hands of the Crown Agents - -	3,300	0	0	„ Crown Agents at 31st December as per account - -	1,431	0	9
				Balance to credit of special funds - - -	2,313	15	0
				Balance to credit of savings bank - -	787	11	8
				Due for money orders and imperial postage -	164	8	2
				Due for postal union, two years - - -	635	0	0
				Due for telegraph subsidy - - -	500	0	0
				Due for rent, coal yard premises, half-year -	110	0	0
Excess liabilities -	2,261	13	10	Exchequer bills held by Crown Agents for immigration fund -	3,300	0	0
	12,941	15	7		12,941	15	7

Public Debt.

11. The debt to Mr. L. F. Marrast on the loan of 10,000*l.* which was taken in 1878 for the purposes of immigration was reduced in 1882 to 6,000*l.* Interest at 5 per cent. per annum is paid on this loan, the principal being repayable in annual instalments of 1,000*l.*

12. The debt incurred in 1879 for the Saint George's Water Works was also reduced, but not to the extent to which the water works fund was liable in the year. Four loans for this service were taken in 1879, one from the immigration fund of 2,400*l.*, a second from the harbour fund of 600*l.*, a third from the education fund of 500*l.*, and a fourth from Mr. John McPhail for 1,000*l.*, making together the sum of 4,500*l.* The three loans first mentioned were repayable in ten equal annual instalments. The instalments and interest were fully paid to the harbour and education funds, but the instalment and interest due to the immigration fund in 1882 were not paid. Interest only was paid to Mr. McPhail. At the close of 1882, therefore, the Saint George's Water Works owed on these loans 3,690*l.*, with 57*l.* 12*s.* 0*d.* interest on the instalment which was due and unpaid in that year to the immigration fund.

Public Works, Roads, &c.

13. In 1882 the bridges which were being constructed over the Dougaldstone and Soubise rivers were finished. The whole cost of the Dougaldstone bridge was 1,436*l.* 19*s.* 7*d.*, and of the Soubise bridge 819*l.* 9*s.* 5*d.*

A new Court House was erected at Santenos in Saint Patrick's parish for 377*l.* 6*s.* 7*d.* On the general repairs and improvements of public buildings the rather large amount of 1,497*l.* 4*s.* 10*d.* was expended in the year.

14. A considerable sum was spent in the proper formation and macadamizing of the highway from the town of Saint George to Saint David's parish; and on this, and in the repair of the roads throughout the island, the sum of 5,865*l.* 3*s.* was expended.

Legislative.

15. Twenty Ordinances were passed, and became law in the year under report, several of which effected very great changes and improvements in the Statute book of the Colony.

16. The most important of these Ordinances was that "for the "constitution of a Supreme Court of judicature and for other "purposes relating to a better administration of Justice in "Grenada." This united and consolidated into one court, called "the Supreme Court of Grenada", all the superior courts which had hitherto existed under different styles, and having separate and distinct jurisdictions in equity cases, in matters civil and

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criminal, in insolvency and in probate. In this court is vested all such jurisdiction as was vested at the time of the commencement of the Ordinance in the High Court of Justice in England, save its jurisdiction as a Court of Admiralty and as a Court of Divorce and Matrimonial Causes, in which the Supreme Court of Grenada has no jurisdiction.

17. Following on this Ordinance in importance is "The Code "of Civil Procedure Ordinance, 1882" which consolidates and amends the laws relating to the process and practice and mode of pleading in the Supreme Court in suits and proceedings at common law and in equity, and makes better provision for the execution of judgments and decrees, and for other matters.

18. Scarcely less in importance, for it largely affects the future of the people of the Colony, is "the Education Ordinance, 1882," which provides for the appointment of a Board of Education, to consist of the Governor and of eight members, of whom four shall be members of the Roman Catholic Church. It authorizes the Governor to appoint an Inspector of Schools, and a Secretary to the Board; and it places in the Board the control of all primary schools which shall be receiving aid from the public funds of the Colony.

19. The Bastardy Ordinance, which became law in 1882, is likely to afford considerable relief in the condition of the unfortunate illegitimate children, who, unhappily, in the West Indian colonies are commonly many more in number than those born in wedlock.

Councils.

20. Captain Maling, the Colonial Secretary, having gone to England on leave of absence, and Mr. E. K. Moylan being interdicted from his office of Attorney-General, M. J. W. Carrington, the Chief Justice of St. Lucia and Tobago, and Mr. Isaac R. Reece, a Judge of the Court of Appeal in Barbados, were specially selected to act, for a time, in the offices respectively of Colonial Secretary and Attorney-General. By virtue of their appointment to these offices they became ex officio members of the Executive and Legislative Councils. Prior to Mr. Reece's arrival to assume the duties of Acting Attorney-General, Mr. Alfred Kingdom, the Police Magistrate of the southern district, held the office for fourteen days. Mr. Frederick Harford, was appointed a member of the Legislative Council during the absence on leave of Mr. L. F. Marrast, and he was confirmed in this appointment upon Mr. Marrast resigning his seat.

Civil Establishment.

21. Colonel Harley (now Sir Robert Harley, K.C.M.G.), the Lieutenant-Governor, left the Colony on the 28th of March, upon which the administration of the Government devolved upon the Colonial Secretary, Captain Maling, as the senior member of the

Executive Council, until Mr. Goldsworthy, C.M.G., assumed the Administration, in November, by virtue of a Commission issued to him as Administrator. In this year Mr. Kingdon, from a magistracy in Barbados, was appointed Magistrate of the southern district; and Mr. Cork, from the Immigration Department in Jamaica, was appointed Protector of Immigrants. The newly created office of Inspector of Schools was filled by the promotion from the Bahamas of Mr. E. W. Begrie. Vacancies which had occurred in the Medical Staff were filled by Dr. Bennett, Dr. Pentland, and Dr. Hatton.

Pensions.

22. A pension of 175*l.* per annum was granted in the year by Ordinance No. 3 to Dr. William Wells, who had been for many years the Medical Officer of the parish of Saint David.

Population, Immigrants, Savings Bank.

23. The Registrar-General reports that 1,914 births, and 945 deaths, were registered in 1882. Of these 79 were still births, which are counted both as births and deaths.

24. The birth rate in the year was 4·47 and the death rate was 2·21. In the previous five years these rates were—

	Births.	Deaths.
1877 - - - - -	4·32	3·02
1878 - - - -	4·18	3·16
1879 - - - -	4·13	2·52
1880 - - - - -	4·39	2·32
1881 - - - - -	4·35	2·77

25. By the Census taken on the 3rd of April 1881 the population of the Colony was found to be 42,403. Between the taking of the Census and the 31st December of that year the natural increase was 385, and the natural increase in 1882 was 969.

The population of the Colony at the 31st December 1882 may, therefore, be estimated at 43,757.

26. Of the marriages which were solemnized in 1882, 229 in number, 143 were solemnized by Ministers of the Roman Catholic Church, 66 by Ministers of the Anglican Church, and 20 by Wesleyan Ministers.

27. The Protector of Immigrants reports most favourably on the condition of the Indian Immigrants in the Colony. The birth rate in 1882 among them was 6·81 per cent. and the death rate

1·24, a much higher birth rate, and a much lower death rate than of the population generally. I attach a copy of Mr. Cork's report, which shows that Grenada is suited to the Indian immigrants; that they are able to save money, and that the number of immigrant depositors in the Savings Bank is on the increase; that they possess stock, even horses for riding, which they are allowed to keep and depasture on the properties of their employers, free of charge; that they acquire landed property; and that they are able to rise to positions of some importance and trust.

28. In November 1881, in order to encourage thrift among the labouring population, and to afford them a place of safety in which to deposit, at interest, their small savings, a Savings Bank was established in the Treasury Department under the management of the treasurer. Depositors in this bank have the security of the Government for the repayment of their deposits, with interest at three per cent. per annum.

At the end of December 1882 there were 108 depositors, and 787*l.* 11*s.* 8*d.* on deposit in this bank.

Education.

29. Under authority of "the Education Ordinance 1882" Mr. Begrie was appointed Inspector of Schools in the middle of the year. He inspects the schools frequently to see that they are conducted properly, and that the regulations of the Board for their proper management are duly observed by the the teachers. He also holds periodical examinations of the schools to ascertain the extent of the aid which should be apportioned to each teacher upon the results of the examination of his school. The præmia upon these results, with a fixed allowance, and the fees on the daily average attendance above the number which is held necessary to qualify the school for the receipt of aid, form the emoluments of the teacher of a Government Aided school.

30. The Inspector, also, holds examinations for candidates for the office of teacher in the primary schools receiving Government aid. Persons are admitted as teachers on probation, but within a given time they must pass such an examination as will qualify them to hold a certificate of at least the third class as fixed by the regulations of the Board, or they will be no longer continued as teachers. This rule has caused the dismissal of several persons who had been teachers in the primary schools before the new law came into operation, and it is hoped that the effect will be to secure a more competent class of teachers.

31. On the Education system as it existed under the former law Mr. Begrie wrote thus:—

"I am sorry to be obliged to say that in several instances most of the monthly returns were, I believe, grossly falsified, monthly averages being returned two or three times as high as they could possibly be. Some schoolhouses having accommodation for but between fifty or sixty returned such averages as 175, 135, 128, &c., and the teachers were paid on these numbers, the managers

signing the returns. No proper registers were kept in most schools, and in others none at all, but simply a list of names, many of which were of those who had left, probably for years, and yet these names were constantly returned as those of children *in school.* In one school which had a roll of 306 in November 1882, after the receipt of a letter sent by the Secretary at my request no less than 172 names were struck off in two months, and the number on the roll in January 31st, 1883, was less by 50 than the *average* at the same time last year. There were no means of checking these false returns, registers not being kept, and the managers visiting so seldom, that I had nothing to rely on but my own experience when paying surprise visits. On going into one of these schools and finding 64 or 65 present on the day of examination and expressing surprise at the comparatively few in attendance, the teacher informed me that fully a half of the children had stayed away because they had no boots to appear in. It was very strange that I always managed to go into that school on unfortunate days, something had always happened to make the number small. I must in fairness say that I do not think the sole blame for these false returns rests upon the teachers. The system under which they were working was a thoroughly unsound one, perfectly rotten at the core. The teachers were paid 2*l.* 10*s.* on every month that the average number reached 25, at one time the minimum was 30, but this amount was withheld if the average number fell below the minimum. They were also paid 4*s.* 2*d.* on every 10 children after the first 50. Such a system tended to demoralize both teachers and schools, for while those who were honest, had to work sometimes without salary for one or perhaps two months in succession, or on a pittance hardly enough to keep them and their families in bread, others, who were unscrupulous, could and did make fair salaries. These assertions are strong, and apparently harsh, but are not in the least exaggerated."

32. Such being the state of the school registers, and the manner in which the schools were conducted, it would be worse than useless, indeed it would be sadly misleading, were any mention here made of the number of children attending the schools, or of the average attendance in 1882.

Imports and Exports.

33. The value of the imported goods in 1882 was 136,375*l.*, and the value of the exported goods was 184,221*l.*, of which 183,402*l.* was the value of goods the produce and manufacture of the Colony. The values in the previous year were respectively: 131,985*l.*, 194,280*l.*, and 193,469*l.*

34. The direction of trade in the two years was as under stated and it will be observed that the import trade with the United States had increased, while with the British Colonies it had decreased. This is because a direct trade with the United States

has sprung up instead of American supplies being drawn through Barbados.

Countries.	1881.		1882.	
	Imports from.	Exports to.	Imports from.	Exports to.
	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom - - -	80,043	180,604	79,424	163,791
British Colonies - - -	39,002	11,648	37,276	17,134
United States of America -	11,664	—	17,516	—
Other foreign countries - -	1,276	2,028	2,159	3,296
Total - -	131,985	194,280	136,375	184,221

35. The annexed table exhibits the comparative quantities of the principal exports of the Colony in 1882. It will be observed that there was an increase in every product except cocoa, spices, and rum.

Articles.		1881.	1882.
Cocoa - - - -	Cwts.	52,393	43,978
Coffee - - - -	Lbs.	250	1,904
Cotton - - - -	Cwts.	1,773	3,036
Cotton seed - - - -	„	4,371	4,528
Spices - - - -	Lbs.	99,230	77,896
Rum - - - -	Gals.	2,617	1,270
Sugar - - - -	Cwts.	18,202	29,504

Shipping.

36. In 1882, 463 sailing vessels of the total tonnage of 14,960 tons were entered at ports in the Colony; and 471 sailing vessels of the total tonnage of 14,730 tons were cleared, 62 steamers also entered and 47 cleared. The total tonnage entered in the year was 117,222, and the total cleared was 90,556. The British ships which entered and cleared gave a gross tonnage of 202,382 tons, and the foreign ships 5,396 tons.

Prisons.

37. One hundred and ninety-seven persons, *i.e.*, 140 males, and 57 females were committed to prison in 1882, of whom 121 males and 52 females were for penal imprisonment. In 1881 the number committed was 220, 164 males, and 56 females, of whom 146 males and 48 females were for penal imprisonment.

38. The daily average in prison in 1882 was 58, 52 males and 6 females; in 1881 this average was 48, 43 males and 5 females. The admissions to hospital in 1882 were 10 males and 2 females; in 1881 there were 7 males and 3 females admitted. There was an entry in the prison books of one death, that of a convict who was executed for murder.

39. The cost of the prisons in 1882 was 1,244*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*, and in the previous year 952*l.* 14*s.* 1*d.* Calculated, therefore, on the daily average in prison the cost per head was, in 1882, 21*l.* 9*s.* 2*d.*, or 1*s.* 2*d.* a day; and in 1881, 19*l.* 16*s.* 11*d.*, or 1*s.* 1*d.* a day. In these calculations the wages of the officers and servants of the prison are included with the cost of food, clothing, purchase and repair of implements, &c.

Criminal Statistics.

40. There was a considerable decrease in the number of cases reported or summoned before the magistrates in 1882 as compared with previous years, the figures being 2,068 in 1882, against 2,698, 2,731, and 3,213 in the years 1881, 1880, and 1879. For prædial larceny the number was only 35 as against 120 in 1881.

41. The summary convictions were also less in number, having been 917 in 1882, while in 1881, 1880, and 1879 they were respectively 1,208, 1,081, and 1,356. The convictions for prædial larceny, too, were very few, only 14 in the year, against 60 in the year before. In the Superior Court the number of convictions in 1882 exceeded any of the previous three years, having been 34 against 25, 23, and 26 in 1881, 1880, and 1879. Two of the 34 convictions were for murder.

Hospitals.

42. There were 251 males and 85 females admitted into the Colony hospital in 1882, and 44 males and 26 females remained from the previous year, giving as the total number under treatment in the year 406, with a daily average of 50.

43. There were 34 deaths. The death-rate on those under treatment was 8·37 per cent., and on the bed-rate it was 68 per cent. The discharges in the year were 339; of these 283 were cured, and 56 relieved; and at the close of the year there remained in hospital 33 patients, 22 males and 11 females.

44. In the Yaws hospital there remained from the previous year 25 patients, 17 males and 8 females; the admissions were, 118; 81 males and 37 females; the total under treatment being 143, and the daily average 21. There was only one death in this hospital. Eighty-five patients were discharged cured, and 5 relieved, and 52, namely 25 males and 27 females, remained in hospital at the close of the year.

45. In Saint Andrew's District hospital 5 males and 3 females remained from 1881, and 53 males and 17 females were admitted in 1882, making a total of 78 under treatment in the year, with a

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daily average of 11. Four patients died, 63 were discharged cured, and one not improved, leaving 10 in hospital at the close of the year. The death-rate on the number under treatment was 5·12 per cent., and on the bed-rate 36·3.

46. Saint John's district hospital was only opened for the reception of patients in the month of August. Thirty-one patients were admitted, of whom 14 were discharged cured, and four relieved. The daily average was 9·91. There were three deaths, giving a death-rate of 9·67 per cent. on the number treated, and 30 per cent. on the bed-rate.

47. In Saint Patrick's district hospital 5 patients remained from 1881, and 58 were admitted in 1882. The daily average is given at 4·91. Forty-seven were discharged cured, and 6 relieved. There were five deaths. On those under treatment the death-rate was 7·61 per cent. and on the bed-rate it was 50 per cent.

Lunatic Asylum.

48. At the commencement of 1882, there were 50 inmates in this institution; 29 males and 21 females, and six males and seven females were admitted in the year. Of the 63 under treatment, six were discharged cured and 5 died, leaving 52, 29 males and 23 females, in the asylum at the close of the year. The daily average in the institution was 56, an excess of five over the previous year. The death-rate per cent. on the total number under treatment was 7·9, on the daily average 8·2, and on the admissions 38·4. The discharges gave a percentage on the total number under treatment of 8·9, and 46·1 on the admissions.

49. The expenditure in the year, including everything except the salary of the Medical Officer, was 1,178*l.* 9s. 7*d.*, giving 21*l.* 0*s.* 10½*d.* as the annual, and 1*s.* 1¾*d.* as the daily, cost of each inmate.

50. I append a copy of the Medical Officer's report on this institution, and on the Poor House and Leper Asylum, which are also under his charge.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD LABORDE.

His Excellency
Sir William Robinson, K.C.M.G.,
&c. &c.

Immigration Office, Grenada,
17th February 1883.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the Annual Immigration Returns for the year 1882.

2. The most notable features in these Returns are the small mortality and the large birth-rate. No stronger proof of the

adaptability of East Indians for emigration to Grenada could be advanced than the results shown by the statistics which I now have the honour to submit: GRENADA.

Mortality.

1882	-	-	1·24 per cent.
1881	-	-	1·68 „

Birth-rate.

1882	-	-	6·81 per cent.
1881	-	-	3·57 „

The natural increase of the "Hermione" immigrants is larger than could have been expected, bearing in mind the fact that of the adults introduced in this ship the proportion of the sexes was about two women to every five men. For the four years and nine months to the 31st December the net increase on the number allotted has been 13½ per cent.—a rate of increase which, if not checked by return to India, migration to other Colonies, or other causes, would double the number of the East Indians who arrived in this vessel in less than 35 years; but there is every reason to believe, from the fact that there is a manifest tendency towards the equalisation of the sexes by the larger number of female births, that in a few years the increase would be greater than it is at present.

4 There has been a decrease in the total number of cases treated in the hospitals, but the loathsome disease "Yaws" has shown no diminution. It is, however, confidently expected that the increase of accommodation at the Yaws Hospital, which has lately been made, will have a most beneficial effect, as Yaws cases can now be removed from the estates as soon as the disease develops itself and before the contagion spreads to other immigrants, whereas previously, in many cases, it had been found impossible to do so on account of the crowded state of the institution. The average daily number of patients treated in the hospitals for the year has been as follows:

Colony Hospital:	Yaws Ward	-	8·35	
	Children accompanying their parents	-	2·27	
				10·62
	Other Wards	-	-	·80
St. Andrew's District Hospital		-	-	2·72
St. Patrick's do do.		-	-	2·53
St. John's do. do.		-	-	55
Total		-	-	17·22

5. The St. John's Hospital has been opened during the year, and the St. Andrew's and St. Patrick's Hospitals have received native as well as immigrant patients for treatment. The above statistics, however, only relate to immigrant patients.

6. There has also been a considerable decrease in the number of complaints against indentured immigrants, but it is satisfactory to observe that there have been fewer cases which have not been pressed to an issue. There has only been one case of a very aggravated crime amongst the indentured immigrants, viz., that of perjury, and only three cases of conviction under the criminal law during the year. This, I think, warrants my saying that the immigrants have behaved in a very peaceful and orderly manner, and have contributed very little to the criminal statistics of the island.

7. There was one charge against an employer for neglect to supply diet to an indentured immigrant which had been ordered by the Medical Officer. In the exercise of my duty as Protector of Immigrants I brought this case for trial before the Police Magistrates of the Eastern District, who imposed a fine of three pounds, and six shillings costs. This fine will, doubtless, be the means of ensuring in future greater care of his immigrants in this respect by the employer in question.

8. I regret to report that a murder was committed during the year by a time-expired immigrant who came to Grenada in the "Accrington" twenty years ago. The murderer was executed.

9. A very satisfactory report has been received from India showing that the return immigrants who sailed in the "Syria" arrived in Calcutta without any deaths having occurred during the voyage.

10. No immigrants have arrived in Grenada during the year under review, and no intelligence has yet been received as to the shipment of those indented for in 1880, the order for which was repeated in 1882. It is much to be regretted that such delays should occur in the supplying of immigrants for this colony as agriculture is retarded and the best interests of the island suffer in consequence.

11. The Wages Returns show an increase of average wages paid to all classes of the indentured immigrants as compared with 1881, but there has been a decrease in the number of days work performed.

12. I am glad to be able to report that the Secretary of State for the Colonies has sanctioned the substantial amendment of the Immigration Ordinance of 1879 with the view of facilitating the working of the immigration system of this Colony, and there appears every reason for anticipating that when these amendments are effected it will be possible to prevent much waste of time, thereby benefiting alike the employer and immigrant.

13. The medical attendance on the immigrants has been regular, and leaves nothing to be desired, as all their medical wants have been promptly and effectually attended to. To this fact must doubtless be attributed the very small death-rate which I have

already had the honour to comment on. A further effort has been made to improve the sanitary arrangements on estates by prohibiting the keeping of pigs in the vicinity of the dwellings, a course which had become necessary, from the great increase in the number of this class of small stock kept by the immigrants on account of the large profit made on them.

14. I am glad to report that the signs of prosperity amongst the indentured immigrants are becoming more and more marked. It is now no unusual occurrence for them to keep horses for riding purposes which they depasture on the estates free of charge, in addition to cattle and small stock. The gardens are in some cases also extensive and valuable. For instance: one man of Plaisance Estate whose garden was maliciously destroyed by one of his countrymen had the garden valued, and it was appraised at twenty-five pounds. Another man at Beausejour Estate planted canes on the metayer system which made eleven barrels of sugar, five and a half of which remained as his proportion.

15. I have great pleasure in reporting that the number of immigrant depositors in the Government Savings Bank is increasing, and it is certain that this useful institution will in a short time be greatly utilised by the coolies.

16. It may not be out of place to call attention here to the large proportion of the East Indian population in this Colony who have embraced Christianity. The following extract from the Census Report compiled by Mr. D. G. Garraway will show the numbers on the 1st May 1881 when the Census was taken:

"It is worthy of especial notice that no less than 657 or 41·79 per cent. of the coolies now in the colony have abandoned their own faith and adopted Christianity. They appear as follows:—

Anglicans -	-	534 or 81·28 per cent.
Roman Catholics	-	121 or 18·42 „
Wesleyans -	-	2 or ·30 „

The number of Mahommedans and Hindus returned was 919. Over two fifths of the East Indian population, therefore, were Christians, and I understand that they contribute a fair share to the revenues of the disestablished Anglican Church. It is quite a usual sight in the Parish of Saint Andrew's to see East Indians riding to church in expensive European costume."

17. The subject of the education of East Indian children has been under the consideration of the Government, and a special scheme has been drawn up and submitted to the Sceretary of State for the Colonies. The present schools of the Colony are of course open to East Indians, but they do not appear to have made use of them.

18. I have much pleasure in calling attention to the very satisfactory condition of the Immigration Fund. At the end of 1882 there was a balance of over 7,000*l.*, partly invested in Exchequer bills and partly in the hands of the Government, besides 1,920*l.* lent to the Water fund. Against this must be placed the

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balance of the immigration loan, viz., 6,000*l.*, repayable in annual instalments of 1,000*l.*, with interest a the rate of five per cent. per annum.

19. With regard to the time-expired immigrants several instances have come under my notice during the year of the possession of considerable property. One man recently died who had attained to the position as manager of a small sugar estate, leaving personal effects which were sworn under 200*l.*, and five acres of land bequeathed to his wife.

20. Passports have been granted to 14 time-expired immigrants during the year, all of whom informed me that they intended to go to Trinidad. Considering that Trinidad is within a few hours sail, and that there is a very large East Indian population resident there, it is only to be wondered at that a much larger number do not go there annually. This circumstance may be regarded as evidence of prosperity here.

21. Reviewing the statistics for the year, I am of opinion that very favourable results have, on the whole, been obtained, and that defects are only observable in details which it is possible to remedy by legislation. The relations of the immigrants and their employers are very good and afford me no cause for anxiety, and the immigrants are prosperous to a degree impossible in their native country, and have a much better chance of prolonged existence than their countrymen possess in India.

I have, &c.

(Signed) PHILIP C. CORK,
Protector of Immigrants.

His Honour
R. T. Goldsworthy, C.M.G.,
Administrator.

SIR, Lunatic Asylum, February 2, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to submit for the information of His Honor the Administrator, the Annual Medical Reports of Institutions under my superintendence at Richmond Hill, for the year ending 31st December 1882.

Lunatic Asylum.

We commence this year with 50 inmates (29 males and 21 females). Admitted during the year, 13 (6 males and 7 females); of whom there were discharged—recovered, 6; died, 5; total discharged and died, 11. Remaining on the books on 31st December, 52, giving a total of 67 under treatment, including 4 lepers, and a daily average of 56, an excess of 5 over previous year.

The obituary table shows this year a per centage of 7·4 on the total number under treatment, and 38·4 on the admissions. The causes of the deaths of the five patients, were as follows: two from diarrhœa, two from phthisis, and one from epilepsy, all of

whom were for sometime under special treatment, except the epileptic, who was transferred from the Island of St. Vincent and admitted on the 20th of May in a most deplorable condition, mentally and bodily; he died thirteen days after admission.

One of the cases admitted this year was a readmission, a female from the Island of Carriacou; who had been discharged two years ago.

The discharges give a per centage on the total number under treatment of 8·9 and on the admissions, 46·1.

There remain among the number now under treatment a few that are suffering from chronic mania, perfectly harmless, that could be well tolerated in the homes of their relatives, should they evince interest in their case; but among the native population I have observed such thorough disregard shown when any of their relatives become incapacitated by disease, that I fear we are not likely to be relieved of the care and maintenance of any so afflicted.

I find it difficult to pursue a moral treatment with the class of patients admitted, they cannot be induced to take part in any amusement. And those among the number who are sufficiently well to perform a certain amount of labour, resent the idea of doing the most trivial work.

At the beginning of the year I attempted the cultivation of a small plot of land adjacent to the institution, and managed by dint of perseverance to grow a few barrels of corn valued at 3*l.*, which sum I intended to spend in purchasing a few luxuries by way of encouraging them to further exertion in this respect.

We had seldom to resort to restraint, and in each case the duration was short. A few hours in the waist-belt, the only mode of restraint used in the institution, has a wonderful effect of subduing a quarrelsome disposition, and is a terror to the destructive and mischievous. Seclusion under lock and key have also lessened in duration, the worst case showing a duration of twenty-seven days, comparing favourably with fifty-seven days in 1881.

The general health of the inmates was excellent throughout the year, seldom a case but of the most trivial nature coming under treatment, and the only accident worthy of note was an injury to hip received by one of the male inmates whilst amusing himself in the airing court.

Our expenditure for the year, including maintenance, clothing, servants, medicine, interments, &c., amounted to 1,178*l.* 9*s.* 7¼*d.* or 21*l.* 0*s.* 10½*d.* per annum on average number under treatment. The total expenditure this year exceeds the previous by 121*l.* 15*s.* 0¼*d.* due to an excess of five patients daily under treatment.

The average cost per annum for each patient for the year also exceeds the previous year by 6*s.* 5½*d.*, but were we to take into consideration the additional expense incurred by the employment of one male and one female attendant on the arrival of the St. Lucia lunatics in the month of June 1881, as well as an

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increase in price on many of the articles supplied by contractors and the charging of the drug account, which I did not receive last year, I feel certain that our expenditure will compare favourably with any one year for over a period of five and less than in 1880.

Considering the decayed condition of many portions of the buildings, which gives additional trouble to the attendants in keeping clean, we are happy that general satisfaction has been expressed by visitors, and I have to thank those who are striving with me in overlooking the care and treatment of the inmates for their continued attention in the performance of their duties.

Poor House.

There remained in this institution on the 1st of January 1882 50 inmates (26 males and 24 females). Admitted for the year, 24 (16 males and 8 females). Discharged, 11 (7 males and 4 females). Remaining on 31st December 1882, 50 (26 males and 24 females), the same numerical strength as we commenced the year with.

The admissions this year were less by seven, due to precaution exercised in admitting cases, a difficult matter in many instances, as they always endeavour to colour their poverty and infirmity to the highest degree. The diseases from which they suffered were to a great extent of a chronic nature, and had been previously under treatment in the Colony Hospital.

Of the eleven discharged, three were admissions for the year, one male suffering from heart disease, who left by his own wish, the other two were sent to the Colony Hospital for treatment. Four left, not caring to submit to the rules of the institution, apparently not appreciating the comfortable position they had occupied for a number of years,—cases probably admitted on a false representation as to their destitute condition, showing the absolute necessity of being fully satisfied that the cases admitted are deserving of the sympathy and protection of the Government. Two were discharged as able to earn a livelihood, one of whom had been an inmate for a few years suffering from lupus, the other from struma. One female leper who had been occupying a bed in the institution was removed to the Leper Asylum, which I alluded to in my last year's report. The last, a garrulous old woman, suffering from monomania was transferred to the Lunatic Asylum, which completes the number discharged.

The mortality has been less by two, although we had a larger number under treatment. Two deaths, one from phthisis and one from advanced struma were of the number admitted for the year, the other cases were old residents, death arising from the usual causes, the giant of the same being senile diarrhœa.

Five of the number treated in this institution were male lepers of whom one died.

Our total expenditure for the year amounted to 727*l.* 1*s.* 11½*d.*, or 14*l.* 16*s.* 9¼*d.* per annum on average number under treatment. We also exceeded our last year's expenditure in this institution caused by a similar contingency, except the increase in the staff of attendants, as I alluded to in my report on the lunatic asylum, but when we show an expense per head on the average number under treatment of less than tenpence daily, it must be admitted as being satisfactory.

Leper Asylum.

In the leper asylum we had four females under treatment for the year. No cases admitted except the female transferred from the poor house.

In the poor house five males were under treatment, one of whom died; four were fresh admissions, leaving of this class on the 31st of December eight in all. Two of the cases admitted were from the Island of Carriacou, one a boy about 11 years suffering from the tuberculated form of the disease, and presenting the appearance of a man of fifty years of age, a case very characteristic of the disease. The other two were from this island, one a native, the other an Indian immigrant; the latter was admitted early in the year in an emaciated condition, loss of fingers and toes, anæsthesia of arms and legs and small ulcer on foot. As he improved in health and his case, seemingly a favourable one for a trial of the gurgon oil treatment, I commenced its administration in accordance with S. Douglas' prescription, but it proved so irritating to stomach and bowels that I had to reduce the dose considerably; however, after gaining a tolerancy of the drug I continued its administration throughout the year with no good result; not the slightest improvement was perceptible, and as it is not considered a specific or likely to be of any benefit unless a case is seen in the first stage,—general health good, free from any other constitutional disease, I discontinued its use. A palliative treatment under which may be included cleanliness, warm clothing, tonics, generous diet, seem to me to be the most rational, and under which some improvement may result.

I have, &c.

(Signed) P. F. MACLEOD,
Medical Officer.

The Honourable
The Colonial Surgeon.

HELIGOLAND.

HELIGOLAND.

No. 9.

Governor J. T. N. O'BRIEN, C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY.

MY LORD, Heligoland, January 18, 1884.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the Blue Book returns of this Island for the year 1883, prepared by the Government Secretary, Mr. Gätke.

2. *General Remarks.*

Among the principal events of importance in 1883 may be cited the visit of the Reserve Squadron of eight ironclads, under Rear-Admiral Sir A. Hoskins, K.C.B., which took place early in the season; the vessels were visited by almost the entire population, and if their appearance and power were sources of admiration and wonder, the conduct of the men who landed, to the number of nearly 2,000, without the slightest irregularity or drunkenness, elicited equal praise on all sides, both from visitors and natives; hence the good effect of such a visit cannot be over-rated, especially seeing that, while our flag has heretofore hardly ever been shown here, there is rarely a week that we have not foreign men-of-war in our roads. A few days later the German Squadron, of four similar ships, paid us a visit; the officers, but not the men, landed during their stay.

In connexion with Her Majesty's Navy I would note a fact, which, though small in itself, may be of material benefit hereafter to the Islanders, viz., that last year was the first in which Heligolanders joined the service, and as the lads now in our training ships met with an enthusiastic reception when they returned for their holidays and are doing well, I have applications from several further eligible candidates, so have no doubt that, while furnishing a much needed career and outlet for our superabundant population, this Colony will contribute from among its intelligent and hardy fisher lads eligible recruits for the service.

3. *Legislation.*

Eight Ordinances were enacted, and caused a somewhat unusual amount of work in this respect, of these, two had not received Her Majesty's sanction at the end of the year.

The new laws were:—

Ordinance No. 1 of 1883.—Licensing retail dealers in spirits.

Ordinance No. 2 of 1883.—Regulating the storage of and duty on petroleum.

Ordinance No. 3 of 1883.—Establishing standard weights and measures.

Ordinance No. 4 of 1883.—Amending Ordinance No. 1 of 1883 in one or two minor points.

Ordinance No. 5 of 1883.—Establishing a Post Office Savings Bank.

Ordinance No. 6 of 1883.—Licensing retail traders.

Ordinance No. 7 of 1883 (pending approval.)— Amending Ordinance No. 2 of 1868, relative to the appointment of trustees for widows, minors, and absentees.

Ordinance No. 8 of 1883 (pending approval).—Amending Ordinance No. 1 of 1868. Tax on bathing visitors.

Of these, the one most important, and likely to have a beneficial influence on the island, in, as I hope, breaking through in time the injurious system of credit which obtains on all sides, is undoubtedly No. 5. The Heligolanders are very conservative and suspicious in accepting anything that is new, so that out of the 117 depositors, four only are adults. The number of children, however, lead to the hope that habits of thrift now so much wanting will gradually be inculcated among the rising generation, and so take root. The total amount in deposit on the 31st December 1883 was M. 3,831 30 (the Ordinance having only come into force on the 1st July last), exclusive of three withdrawals of M. 13 in all.

4. *Population.*

The population, owing to there being but a limited field of employment in the Island, remains almost stationary, the surplus going to sea or emigrating.

5. *Sources of Revenue.*

The prosperity of the island being contingent on the bathing season, I am happy to say that 1883 gave exceptional results; the number of visitors having risen from 4,912 in the previous year to 5,922, and of excursionists from 2,350, to 2,500 last season, owing mainly to the Hamburg Exhibition, and the "Kruger Verein" in that city, as well as to the improved daily service viâ the railway to Cuxhaven, to which may be added that as the island and its climate is becoming better known it is growing more popular One fact. and this a remarkable one in its bearing on the latter point, is that with the increased amount of visitors the number of bathers does not rise in the same proportion, though the number of those who cross over daily to little Sandy Island, there in mid-ocean to breathe the pure sea air, shows that more visitors come here for the sake of the climate than for the actual bathing, unequalled though it be.

HELIGOLAND.

In 1883 the only other means of occupation, fishing, both began and ended badly, for at the commencement of the year the fleet was still reduced by the losses of the previous winter, and in the end the weather was such, that though, as a rule, up to Christmas the fleet goes out at least six or eight times, this year it could put to sea but twice,—on one occasion lately bringing in the unprecedented catch of 50,000, value 414*l.*, showing the riches at our disposal were not our boats, gear, and general fishing arrangements, as has been reported by the men sent over to the Fisheries Exhibition, found to be so far behind the rest of the world; this being entirely owing to the want of a harbour, and the compulsory use therefore of small open boats capable of being beached.

The spring fishing was unusually good, as was that for lobsters. Though data are not procurable on these heads, I do not think I over estimate the yearly catch of the last named crustaceæ at under 30,000.

6. *Total Revenue.*

The revenue has risen from M. 133,519 35 in 1882 to M. 148, 248 90 last year. Import dues giving M. 35,178 68 against M. 33,684 95, in the former year; the other principal sources of increase being licenses and postage.

7. *Expenditure.*

The actual expenditure in 1883 was M. 142,824 76. Increased numbers of visitors—and, *ergo*, receipts—necessitated heavier outlays, adding to this M. 5,660, repayment of Public Debt, our total expenditure was M. 148,484 76.

8. *Trade—Exports and Imports.*

The trade of the island has been as heretofore exclusively with Germany, no direct communication with England having taken place, except by the Coast Guard and Trinity House vessels, which bring from thence stores for those departments in this island.

In winter the weekly mail steamer (a tug) from Bremerhaven carries such fresh provisions and requirements as are not sent by our light-decked vessels, which trade mostly with Hamburg, and as our fish has been during the winter of 1883 for the first time divided between Cuxhaven and Bremerhaven (the present contractor having arranged to send small steamers over from both those ports whenever he learnt that the fleet was out fishing) these vessels afford further connexion with the mainland.

Our summer communications have been somewhat increased last year, as in addition to the daily mail boat from Cuxhaven, in connexion with the railway, the steamer runs twice a week from Bremerhaven, and three times a week down the Elbe from

Hamburg, another boat was put on to run over weekly from thence, making 13 regular means of communication a week between this and the continent. The total number of trips made during the year being 195.

9. *Civil Service.*

The principal changes have been consequent on the removal of Lieut. Brietzcke, R.N., magistrate and wreck receiver, owing to an alteration made by the Admiralty in the strength of the Coast Guard, and his relief of the charge of the detachment by Mr. Smith, "chief boatman in charge;" his place as magistrate being filled by Capt. Campbell, late Third Norfolk Regiment.

The Rector, the Reverend H. Niepman, resigned, and at the end of the year no successor had been chosen to replace him.

Mr. Mohr, second teacher, left and was replaced by Mr. Lehmann, and Mr. Bardtz succeeded Mr. Dory, whose resignation of the Pilot Inspectorship I accepted.

10. *Public Works.*

The outlay under this head amounted to M. 24,781 70, the heaviest expenses being incurred in improving the streets, as well as in the lighting of the town; in constructing a solid pier head; in repairs to our school buildings and in attempts to preserve Sandy Island.

11. *Public Health.*

Has been good—if Heligoland has hitherto been noted for its salubrity, as exemplified by the returns submitted by me last year, and if innumerable instances can be cited of its effects among our visitors during the season, last year was, perhaps, the first when the effects of our climate were tested in winter, of which I may be allowed to allude to two instances which came under my personal notice; one of a gentleman who arrived here in a dying state from asthma, and the second an officer, who landed with his health completely shattered by 20 years' residence and exposure on service in India, both of whom were restored in a fortnight in a marvellous manner. I mention these facts to draw attention to the possibility of the island becoming a sanitarium for our sailors and soldiers who have suffered from a tropical climate, and thus enable Heligoland to render invaluable service to England.

12. *Education.*

I hope the visit of one of Her Majesty's School Inspectors to our schools may bring forth good results, for although he found the children as a rule intelligent and well taught, yet he noted several serious defects, particularly in the English instruction, as well as in the want of special training for girls; the former s so

HELIGOLAND. indifferent that the Heligolander alone of all Her Majesty's Colonial subjects cannot hope to compete for the prizes offered to all Englishmen in the public service, or even supply the necessary staff for the Colonial wants. German (a foreign language unknown to the children till they learn it at school) being the medium of tuition, and the Colony being unable to expend more than the large sum for it (than) it now does for ecclesiastical and educational purposes.

13. *Crime.*

Though, as a rule, crime may be said to be unknown among our population, 1883 has unfortunately been marked by a case of manslaughter, the first serious offence that has taken place since the island has been under England, 76 years. A lad who has been transported to Gibraltar, having stabbed another in a brawl.

14. *Final Remarks.*

The gales in the winter having again seriously damaged Sandy Island, I fear (except the slight hope that the sand-bank is moving be found correct) that it is doomed, though such a fate may be, I hope, postponed by a considerable outlay, and the voluntary labour of the population *en masse,* which I last year inaugurated; when it does go, then the ruin of the Colony, and a fate similar to the Pitcairn Islanders must follow, if the only other possible source of subsistence, fishing, be not increased; it was therefore with feelings of deep gratitude the people saw a preliminary survey of the harbour, of which hopes were held out on the abolition of the gaming tables in 1870, begun last season by orders from home, and I recently have endorsed their prayer to the Queen that this want may not be lost sight of. With a harbour Heligoland must become the entreport for the fish supply of Northern Europe, and equally from its situation be the outlying pilot and tug station for the main commercial arteries of this part of the continent, when as that trade is mainly in English vessels (that of Hamburg and Bremen alone amounting yearly to 2,600,000 tons) the services it would render would be incalculable, instead of as now our being utterly helpless to save life and property, when, as has often been recently the case after almost every one of the severe gales so common in this part of the North Sea, vessels in distress are for days in sight of the island, all we can do being limited to telegraphing for assistance to the continent some 30 miles off.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. (Signed) J. T. N. O'BRIEN, Lieut-Col.,
The Earl of Derby, Governor.
&c. &c.

GOLD COAST.

No. 10.

GOVERNOR Sir S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY.

Christiansborg Castle, Accra,
October 16, 1883.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship two copies of the annual Blue Book of the Settlement on the Gold Coast for 1882.

2. I transmit also a report on these returns by the Acting Colonial Secretary, Mr. F. Evans, C.M.G.

3. I regret that I have been unable to forward these documents to your Lordship before the present time.

4. I trust I may be able to send away the Blue Book at an earlier date in the coming year. I can assure your Lordship that I shall use my best endeavours to do so.

I have, &c.
(Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,
Governor.

The Right Hon.
the Earl of Derby,
&c. &c.

Accra, Gold Coast,
October 12, 1883.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Excellency the following report on the Blue Book of the Gold Coast for the year 1882.

1. The revenue for 1882 (including a contribution of 3,631*l.* 5*s.* received from the Settlement at Lagos) was 104,817*l.* 4*s.*

2. Of this amount 90,088*l.* 17*s.* 4*d.* was derived from Customs.

3. Of the balance (14,728*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*), fines, forfeitures, and fees of court furnished 2,762*l.* 16*s.* 3*d.*, post office 725*l.* 18*s.* 1*d.*, and licenses 3,166*l.* 5*s.*

4. The revenue was 11,606*l.* 6*s.* 7*d.* less than that for 1881, which amounted to 116,423*l.* 10*s.* 7*d.*

5. There was however included in the receipts of the year 1881 a sum of 7,199*l.* 19*s.* 11*d.*, the value of gold paid by the King of Ashanti towards the expenses incurred by the Colony consequent on the threatened outbreak of hostilities with that kingdom.

GOLD COAST.

6. Deducting this special receipt from the Revenue of 1881 we have 109,223*l.* 10*s.* 8*d.* as against 104,817*l.* 4*s.* in 1882, or a decrease in the latter year of 4,406*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*

7. This decrease is accounted for by the large falling off in the importation of rum from the United States of America.

8. The expenditure of 1882 was 116,501*l.* 2*s.* 7*d.* or 18,275*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.* less than that of 1881, which amounted to 134,776*l.* 5*s.* 11*d.*

9. In 1881 a sum of 36,088*l.* 3*s.* 11*d.* was disbursed on account of the expenses incurred in the Ashanti crisis, and there was also a sum of 4,350*l.* expended on account of the purchase of a Colonial steamer.

10. These amounts may be considered as special outlays, and would reduce the ordinary expenditure of the year to 94,338*l.* 2*s.*

11. In 1882 a special expenditure of 27,271*l.* 17*s.* 4*d.* was incurred on account of the 1881 Ashanti difficulties, and deducting this amount from the total disbursements of the year we have an ordinary expenditure of 89,229*l.* 5*s.* 3*d.* to compare with that of the previous year, viz., 94,338*l.* 2*s.*, or a decrease in 1882 of 5,108*l.* 16*s.* 9*d.*

12. The decrease has arisen principally under the heads of constabulary, public works, and transport.

13. The expenditure of 1882 was 11,683*l.* 18*s.* 7*d.* in excess of the Revenue for the year, but had not the extraordinary expenditure on account of Ashanti been incurred, the receipts would have exceeded the disbursements by a sum of 15,587*l.* 18*s.* 9*d.*

14. The following tabular statements show the revenue and expenditure under the several heads of receipt and disbursement for the years 1881 and 1882.

Revenue.

Head of Revenue.	1881.	1882.	1882.		Cause of Increase or Decrease.
			Increase.	Decrease.	
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Customs	94,750 12 9	90,088 17 4	—	4,661 15 5	
Fines, forfeitures, and fees	3,822 14 11	2,762 16 3	—	1,059 18 8	
Hospital receipts	4 10 0	22 7 9	17 17 9	—	
Post Office	394 1 9	725 18 1	331 16 4	—	
Profit on sale of gold dust	224 2 9	85 5 3	—	138 17 6	
Sale of Government property	111 1 2	179 13 2	68 12 0	—	
Licenses — Auctioneer	54 0 0	69 0 0	15 0 0	—	
Licenses — Marriage	6 6 0	—	—	6 6 0	
Licenses — Liquor	3,753 5 0	3,097 5 0	—	656 0 0	
Interest on investments	2,426 12 3	2,789 9 5	362 17 2	—	
Over payments refunded	630 1 8	194 10 4	—	435 11 4	
Light house dues	390 11 0	405 2 0	14 11 0	—	
Contribution from Lagos, &c.	2,178 15 0	3,631 5 0	1,452 10 0	—	
Miscellaneous receipts	476 16 5	590 1 11	113 5 6	—	
Special receipts	7,199 19 11	175 12 6	—	7,024 7 5	
Total	116,423 10 7	104,817 4 0	2,376 9 9	13,982 16 4	

Expenditure.

Head of Expenditure.	1881.	1882.	1882. Increase.	1882. Decrease.	Cause of Increase or Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Salaries fixed	54,239 0 10	52,660 0 10	—	1,579 0 0	
Salaries provisional and temporary	303 10 3	2,510 10 3	2,207 0 0	—	
Allowances	1,203 2 0	1,329 13 1	126 11 1	—	
Contingencies	547 18 7	1,131 0 10	583 2 3	—	
Executive Council	42 11 3	15 4 0	—	27 7 3	
Customs and Treasury	1,128 7 9	952 18 6	—	175 9 3	
Post Office	133 3 10	116 18 9	—	16 5 1	
Supreme court	1,011 6 3	697 5 6	—	314 0 9	
Charitable allowances	80 6 10	106 6 6	25 19 8	—	
Educational	350 0 0	525 0 0	175 0 0	—	
Constabulary	3,475 15 5	1,045 15 2	—	2,430 0 3	
Gaols	1,860 8 5	2,388 2 8	527 14 3	—	
Public works and survey	10,687 8 3	8,285 3 3	—	2,402 5 0	
Medical	576 6 8	735 16 0	159 9 4	—	
Sanitary	291 10 1	309 10 2	18 0 1	—	
Marine	8,934 9 3	4,542 4 7	—	4,392 4 8	
Rent	864 17 1	990 5 9	125 8 8	—	
Transport	8,152 17 9	6,314 10 11	—	1,838 6 10	
Aborigines	1,696 12 8	1,603 19 1	—	92 13 7	
Miscellaneous	2,493 18 6	1,741 7 2	—	752 11 4	
Pensions	614 10 4	1,227 12 3	613 1 11	—	
	98,688 2 0	89,229 5 3	4,561 7 3	14,020 4 0	
Special expenses	36,088 3 11	27,271 17 4	—	8,816 6 7	
	134,776 5 11	116,501 2 7	4,561 7 3	22,836 10 7	

Public Debt.

15. There was no public debt.

Credit.

16. There was to the credit of the Settlement on the 31st December 1882 a balance of 69,355*l.* 18*s.* 5*d.* composed as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
In the local Treasury	5,443	12	11
In the hands of sub-collectors at out-stations	2,135	17	11
Remittances in transit	5,356	3	10
In the hands of Crown Agents	3,006	4	8
Investments	51,634	10	0
Gold ornaments made for Philadelphia exhibition	403	5	1
Advances due to the Settlement	2,615	17	7
	70,595	12	0
Less deposits for which the Settlement is liable	1,239	13	7
	69,355	18	5

GOLD COAST.

During the year the investments were reduced by a sum of 10,496*l.* 16*s.* 10*d.*

Military Expenditure.

27. The amount expended during 1882 by Great Britain for the military protection, and in aid of the civil establishment, of the Colony, excluding the cost of clothing, arms, passages, &c. was 14,351*l.* 17*s.* 10*d.* as compared with 26,120*l.* 19*s.* 7*d.* in the previous year.

Public Works.

18. The expenditure on this service in 1882 was 8,285*l.* 3*s.* 3*d.* or 2,402*l.* 5*s.* less than in the previous year (10,687*l.* 8*s.* 3*d.*).

19. In addition to the current repairs to public buildings, roads, streets, and bridges, &c. the principal works undertaken during the year were the completion of the construction of the hospital at Accra, the treasury at Accra, and officers' quarters, &c. at Addafia, on which the sums of 585*l.* 10*s.* 8*d.*, 627*l.* 4*s.* 10*d.*, and 529*l.* 19*s.* 5*d.* were expended respectively.

Legislation.

20. During the year 13 Ordinances were passed by the Governor and the Legislative Council.

21. Of these, five had reference to the revenue and expenditure of the Settlements on the Gold Coast, and at Lagos (Nos. 1, 2, 3, 8, 11), two were for the promotion and assistance of education in the Gold Coast Colony (Nos. 4 and 9), and two (Nos. 5 and 10), conferred upon the Governor the necessary powers for the reception, detention, and deportation of certain political prisoners. Of the remaining four, one (No. 6) regulated the grant of allowances for travelling expenses to Government officers, one (No. 7) amended the law relating to the appointment of District Commissioners, coroners, and deputy sheriffs, and the other two (Nos. 12 and 13) applied exclusively to the Settlement at Lagos.

Government.

22. His Excellency Sir Samuel Rowe, K.C.M.G., the Governor and Commander-in-Chief administered the Government of the Gold Coast Colony up to the 13th May, when he proceeded on leave to England, and in the absence from the Colony of the Lieutenant-Governor, the Colonial Secretary, Captain C. A. Moloney, C.M.G., assumed the administration of the Government.

23. On the 4th October his Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor (W. Brandford Griffith, Esq., C.M.G.) returned to the Colony

and relieved Captain Moloney of the administration and retained it until the return on the 24th December of the Governor and Commander-in-Chief.

Civil Establishment.

24. The following appointments to the civil establishments of the Colony were made during the year.

Mr. N. Lesingham Bailey to be Chief Justice vice Sir James Marshall retired.

Captain Robert Knapp Barrow, C.M.G., and Mr. Frederick Evans, C.M.G., to be Assistant Colonial Secretaries, and Mr. H. W. Woodcock to be a Deputy Assistant Colonial Secretary.

Mr. W. H. Quayle Jones to act as a Puisne Judge.

Mr. Frederick Bridgman to be Queen's Advocate vice Mr. Frederick Pinkett, who had been appointed to this office, but who did not take up the duties.

In the constabulary Captain L. A. Brydon, one of the inspectors, was promoted to be Inspector General, and Messrs. Cade and Firminger to be inspectors. Mr. Stuart Stephens, Captain R. D. Douglas, Mr. C. W. Thompson, and Mr. E. A. Barnett, and Mr. A. E. Balfour were appointed to the force as assistant inspectors.

Mr. J. H. Newton was appointed to the Public Works and Survey Department as foreman of works.

Doctors T. C. Wright and F. J. Roberts were appointed to the Medical Department as assistant colonial surgeons, and an engineer (Mr. T. Bramley, R.N.) was appointed to the Government steamer.

25. There were four deaths among European officers during the year; two on the Gold Coast, one at Madeira, and one in England.

Pensions.

26. The following names were added to the pension list in 1882:—

Bishop Cheetham (Bishop of Sierra Leone), Sir James Marshall (Chief Justice), Alexander Grant (Inspector General of Constabulary), H. H. Graves (Inspector of Constabulary, and W. A. Parker (Chief Magistrate of the Gambia Settlement).

27. A gratuity of 500*l.* was granted to the widow of the late Mr. Thomas Woodcock (Queen's Advocate) who was drowned in the surf at Accra in 1881.

Population.

28. No reliable information exists on this head. It has been estimated that the population of the Colony and Protectorate is about 400,000. Endeavours are being made to obtain more accurate statistics.

Ecclesiastical.

29. The figures given in the following return are taken from information furnished by the heads of the several religious bodies.

Denomination.	No. of Clergy.	No. of Places of Worship.	Average Attendance.	Remarks.
Church of England -	2	2	380	
Wesleyan - -	2	1	750	Cape Coast only; details of other stations not given.
Basel - - -	66	53	5,160	
Bremen - -	2	—	315	

Education.

30. In 1882 Ordinances were passed by the Governor and the Legislative Council providing for the payment of capitation and other grants to schools which fulfil certain conditions in regard to the teachers, number of scholars, passes under examination, &c.

31. These Ordinances did not, however, come into operation in 1882, and the usual annual grants in aid of education (425*l.* in all) were paid to the Basel, Wesleyan, and Bremen schools.

32. The following information is taken from the returns furnished by the several educational missions:—

Denomination.	No. of Schools.	No. of Scholars.			Remarks.
		Male.	Female.	Total.	
Government Schools -	2	296	94	390	
Anglican - -	1	67	10	77	
Roman Catholic -	—	—	—	—	No Returns.
Bremen - -	—	178	31	209	
Wesleyan -	—	2,117	245	2,362	
Basel - - -	—	1,027	399	1,426	
	—	3,685	779	4,464	

Imports.

33. The gross value of the imports amounted to 392,975*l.* 6*s.* 11*d.*, and as compared with the value of those in 1881 (398,124*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.*) show a decrease of 5,148*l.* 14*s.* 7*d.*

34. There was, however, in 1882 specie amounting to 24,369*l.* 10*s.* 2*d.* imported, and in 1881 34,846*l.* 10*s.*; and deducting these sums from the gross imports the returns of the year 1882 (368,605*l.* 16*s.* 9*d.*) show an increase of 5,328*l.* 5*s.* 3*d.* over those of 1881 (363,277*l.* 11*s.* 6*d.*).

35. The value of the importations of haberdashery (16,640*l.*) was nearly four times that of 1881, the quantity of gin imported (80,731 gallons) was more than double that of 1881, the value of hardware and cutlery goods (20,701*l.*) showed 5,236*l.* more than 1881, and an increase of 12,527*l.* was obtained on woollen goods.

36. It was principally under these four heads that the increase in the staple articles of import was obtained.

37. There was a considerable falling off in the quantities of beads imported, the value of these articles being shown at 6,354*l.* in 1882 as against 18,774*l.* in 1881, or a decrease of 12,420*l.*

38. The miscellaneous imports or articles which are not considered to be staple articles of trade, were valued at 80,296*l.* in 1882 as against 91,925*l.* in 1881, and show a falling off in value of 11,629*l.*

39. This 80,296*l.* for 1882 includes a sum of 27,207*l.* for articles of food, and 8,485*l.* for ale and porter, brandy, whiskey, wines, and liqueurs.

40. The value of goods imported "free of duty" amounted to 9,177*l.*

41. I attach a tabular statement showing the quantities and value of the principal articles of import in 1881 and 1882.

Statement showing quantities and value of principal articles of Imports in 1881 *and* 1882.

Articles.		1881.	1882.	1882.	
				Increase.	Decrease.
Beads	Pkgs.	5,581	1,797	—	—
	£	18,774	6,354	—	12,420
Brass and copper ware	Pkgs.	1,403	1,445	—	—
	£	2,843	2,833	—	10
Cotton goods	Pkgs.	19,791	35,264	—	—
	£	132,533	129,251	—	3,282
Fire-arms	Pkgs.	6,024	7,578	—	—
	£	3,000	3,777	777	—
Gin	Gal.	38,486	80,371	—	—
	£	6,067	12,121	6,054	—
Gunpowder	Lbs.	108,893	157,079	—	—
	£	2,568	3,867	1,299	—
Haberdashery	Pkgs.	1,808	4,025	—	—
	£	3,666	16,640	12,974	—
Hardware and cutlery	Pkgs.	13,683	14,069	—	—
	£	15,465	20,701	5,236	—
Silk goods	Pkgs.	627	924	—	—
	£	4,736	7,384	2,648	—
Rum	Gals.	507,026	403,523	—	—
	£	64,270	54,829	—	9,441
Tobacco	Cwt.	4,333	4,791	—	—
	£	15,709	16,303	594	—
Woollen	Pkgs.	102	1,023	—	—
	£	1,722	14,249	12,527	—
Other articles		91,925	80,296	—	11,629
		363,278	368,605	42,109	36,782
Specie		34,846	24,370	—	10,476
		398,124	392,975	42,109	47,258

Net increase 5,149*l.*

Exports.

42. The gross value of the exports amounted to 340,019*l.* 8*s.* 6*d.*, and as compared with the value of those in 1881 (373,258*l.* 19*s.* 4*d.*) shows a falling off of 33,239*l.* 10*s.* 10*d.*

43. Divided into "produce, &c. of the Colony" and "British and Foreign, &c. produce" the exports show 313,995*l.* 19*s.* 9*d.* under the former head, and 26,023*l.* 8*s.* 9*d.* under the latter head.

44. "Produce of the Colony" consists principally of camwood, gold dust, guinea grains, gum copal, ivory, monkey skins, palm kernels, and palm oil. The value of these articles alone amounted to 311,655*l.*, and of this sum 61,522*l.* was represented by gold dust, 50,317*l.* by palm kernels, and 178,508*l.* by palm oil.

45. There was a very considerable decrease in the quantity of the palm oil exported, 52,064*l.* worth having been exported in 1882 less than in 1881.

46. Of the total value of the "Produce of the Colony"

£	*s.*	*d.*	
235,664	17	2	went to the United Kingdom.
117	15	0	to British Colonies.
78,213	7	7	to Foreign Countries.

47. Of the exports shown as sent to foreign countries, the United States of America absorbed 57,680*l.* 14*s.* 2*d.*, and Germany 19,340*l.* 15*s.* 5*d.*, the principal article being palm oil (51,093*l.* to America and 12,570*l.* to Germany).

48. The following tabular statement shows the quantities and values of the principal articles of export in 1881 and 1882.

Statement showing quantities and value of principal articles of Export in 1881 *and* 1882.

Articles.		1881.	1882.	1882.	
				Increase.	Decrease.
Produce of the Colony.					
Camwood	Cwt.	252	3,529	—	—
	£	286	1,652	1,366	—
Gold dust	Oz.	12,567	17,097 13/16	—	—
	£	45,241	61,552	16,311	—
Guinea grain	Cwt.	781	952	—	—
	£	1,340	5,655	4,315	—
Gum copal	Cwt.	2,024	4,081	—	—
	£	4,041	7,861	3,820	—
Ivory	Cwt.	52	85	—	—
	£	1,208	1,903	962	—
Monkey skins		65,029	239	—	—
	£	5,036	4,127	—	909
Palm kernels	Cwt.	125,775	163,030	—	—
	£	47,508	50,317	2,809	—
Palm oil	Gals.	3,107,741	2,921,022	—	—
	£	230,572	178,508	—	52,064
Other articles		2,065	2,341	89	—
		337,297	313,996	29,672	52,973
British and Foreign Produce		6,214	2,902	—	3,312
		343,511	316,898	29,672	56,285
Specie		29,748	23,121	—	6,627
		373,259	340,019	29,672	62,912

Net decrease 33,240*l.*

Shipping.

49. The following tables show the number of vessels entered and cleared in 1881 and 1882.

Sailing Vessels.

—	1881.			1882.		
	No. of Vessels.	No. of Tons.	No. of Crews.	No. of Vessels.	No. of Tons.	No. of Crews.
Entered - - -	78	21,921	805	63	17,083	565
Cleared - - -	75	19,459	757	58	15,864	531

Steam Vessels.

—	1881.			1882.		
	No. of Vessels.	No. of Tons.	No. of Crews.	No. of Vessels.	No. of Tons.	No. of Crews.
Entered - - -	144	133,695	5,407	165	157,516	5,501
Cleared - - -	141	132,104	5,146	164	157,509	5,491

Gaols and Prisoners.

50. The total number of persons committed to the province gaols in 1882 was 729 (679 men, 40 women, and 10 juveniles), as against 637 in 1881.

51. Of these no less than 390 had been previously convicted, 342 once, 25 twice, and 23 thrice or more.

52. No natural or accidental death occurred in any of the gaols during the year.

53. Two men in Accra gaol suffered the extreme penalty of the law.

54. A province gaol was re-established at Cape Coast (Gothic House) on 20th November 1882, and 20 prisoners were transferred to there from Elmina.

55. The total cost of the gaol department for the year was 2,523*l.* 15*s.* 5*d.*

Criminal Statistics.

56. The following comparative table shows the number of offences, apprehensions, convictions, and acquittals, during the last four years.

—	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.
The number of offences reported to the police: —				
The number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the Magistrates - - - -	1,224	1,272	1,831	1,925
The number of summary convictions:—				
1. For offences against the person -	271	243	389	430
2. For praedial larceny - -	—	22	13	10
3. For offences against property other than praedial larceny - -	263	128	212	213
4. For other offences - - -	313	557	769	773
The number of convictions in the Superior Courts :—				
1. For offences against the person -	17	32	15	79
2. For praedial larceny - -	—	—	6	5
3. For offences against property other than praedial larceny - -	30	6	20	20
4. For other offences - - -	29	58	29	40
The number of persons acquitted :				
1. In the Inferior Courts - -	229	187	328	344
2. In the Superior Courts - -	65	39	52	45

Hospitals.

57. The hospitals for the admission of patients are at Accra, Cape Coast, and Elmina, but out-patients are treated at all other out-stations on the Gold Coast.

58. The number of patients admitted to hospital for treatment was, Accra 166, Cape Coast 60, and Elmina 490.

59. At Accra there were 12 deaths, at Cape Coast three, and at Elmina five.

60. The principal diseases treated were malarious fevers, rheumatism, diseases of the respiratory, digestive, and intestinal organs, with dysentery, primary venereal disease, skin affections with ulcers and abscesses, yaws, and guinea worm with its results.

I have, &c.

(Signed) Fred. Evans,

Acting Colonial Secretary,

Gold Coast Colony.

His Excellency
Sir Samuel Rowe, K.C.M.G.,
Governor and Commander-in-Chief,
&c. &c.

GAMBIA.

No. 11.

Governor A. E. HAVELOCK, C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY.

Government House, Sierra Leone,
November 3 1883.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit, in duplicate, the Blue Book Returns of the Settlement on the Gambia for the year 1882, together with a Despatch, of the 24th October last, from Acting Administrator Carter, reporting upon the Returns.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) A. E. HAVELOCK,
Governor.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Derby,
&c. &c.

Government House, Bathurst,
October 24, 1883.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith three copies of the Blue Book for 1882.

2. I regret that it has not been possible sooner to furnish these returns, but owing to various circumstances a formidable list of arrears had accumulated in the Customs Department, and with the limited staff available some delay has necessarily occurred.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

Revenue.

The receipts for the year 1882, inclusive of arrears, amounted to 26,625*l.* 14*s.* The arrears for the previous year reached a total of 157*l.* 14*s.* 8*d.*, which, when deducted from the previously mentioned sum, leaves 26,467*l.* 19*s.* 4*d.* as the revenue proper for 1882.

GAMBIA.

4. The revenue of 1882 was made up of the following contributions from the various sources from which the income of the Settlement was derived :—

	£	s.	d.
Customs - - - -	22,964	6	3
Licenses - - - -	999	15	0
Rents, exclusive of land - -	631	2	9
Land revenue - - -	157	6	4
Fines, forfeitures, &c. - -	401	14	11
Postage - - - -	30	11	3
Auction duty - - -	37	2	1
Incidental revenue, miscellaneous receipts, &c. - - - -	1,246	0	9
Tota. -	26,467	19	4
The revenue of 1881, exclusive of arrears amounted to - -	22,932	4	5
Leaving an excess of - -	3,535	14	11

in the revenue of 1882, as compared with that of the previous year.

The following comparative table indicates this difference in detail :—

Source of Revenue.	Revenue, 1881.	Revenue, 1882.	Increase, 1882.	Decrease, 1882.
Customs.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Import duty on wine - - -	1,444 16 6	1,250 6 11	—	194 9 7
„ „ spirits - -	2,795 7 4	1,392 8 1	—	1,402 19 3
„ „ tobacco - -	1,521 19 9	2,198 7 11	676 8 2	—
„ „ sugar - - -	467 10 2	550 3 3	82 13 1	—
„ „ cola nuts - -	1,812 12 10	1,475 10 3	—	337 2 7
„ „ guns - - -	703 8 0	785 0 0	81 12 0	—
„ „ gunpowder - -	149 14 1	254 1 5	104 7 4	—
„ „ palm wine - -	382 8 7	390 0 7	7 12 0	—
„ „ bricks - -	47 15 1	91 17 0	44 1 11	—
Ad valorem duty - - -	1,441 14 8	2,207 17 2	766 2 6	—
Export duty. { Ground nuts - - -	5,607 19 7	8,439 9 1	2,831 9 6	—
Export duty. { Hides - - - -	127 5 6	95 4 10	—	32 0 8
Tonnage, quarantine, and pilotage -	2,583 6 6	3,620 0 6	1,036 14 0	—
Warehouse rent - - -	170 8 4	213 19 3	43 10 11	—
Customs totals - -	19,256 6 11	22,964 6 3	5,674 11 5	1,966 12 1
Licenses - - - - -	1,150 12 0	999 15 0	—	150 17 0
Rents and land revenue - -	970 16 1	788 9 1	—	182 7 0
Fines, forfeitures, &c. - - -	306 17 3	401 14 11	94 17 8	—
Postage - - - - -	76 8 8	30 11 3	—	45 17 5
Auction duty - - - -	11 3 2	37 2 1	25 18 11	—
Incidental revenue, miscellaneous receipts, &c.	1,160 0 4	1,246 0 9	86 0 5	—
Total revenues, and increase and decrease.	22,932 4 5	26,467 19 4	5,881 8 5	2,345 13 6
			2,345 13 6	
Increase in 1882 - - - - - -			3,535 14 11	

By these figures it will be seen that the general revenue for 1882 shows an excess of 3,535*l.* 14*s.* 11*d.* over that of 1881.

5. The principal items of increase were gathered from the duties on tobacco (676*l.*), ad valorem duty (766*l.*), export duty, ground

nuts (2,831*l.*), and the tonnage, quarantine, and pilotage dues (1,036*l.*).

6. On the other hand, there was a large decrease in the collection upon spirits (1,402*l.*), and in a minor degree the revenue from cola nuts and the land rental at Combo suffered by comparison with the previous year. Licenses also showed a falling off, but these losses were more than counter-balanced by the increase derived from the sources previously mentioned.

7. It is to be feared that the Combo ground rents will show a further decrease this year (1883), the manager of that district reporting that the migratory farmers do not visit Combo in such large numbers as heretofore, and that much of the Government land remains unoccupied.

Expenditure.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
The payments made in 1882 (exclusive of arrears of 1881) amounted to - -	18,079	14	5
Add to this arrears due at the close of the year, viz. - - - -	1,886	0	7
And we get - - - - as the expenditure proper of 1882.	19,965	15	0
The expenditure of 1881 amounted to	19,788	0	9
	177	14	3

Showing an excess of 177*l.* 14*s.* 3*d.* in the expenditure of 1882 over that of the previous year. It should be remarked, however, that a sum of 855*l.* 4*s.* 7*d.* was expended in the construction of new Customs warehouses, for which there was no provision in the estimates the amount being defrayed out of the vote for Public Works; it was, however, necessary to include a sum of 285*l.* 0*s.* 9*d.* in the Supplementary Ordinance prepared in 1883 which had been expended over and above the vote for Public Works.

8. The financial position of the Settlement at the close of 1882 was as follows:—

Assets.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Balance in Colonial chest - - -	2,398	14	10
Balance in hands of Crown Agents - -	2,493	0	7
Surplus funds invested - - -	19,800	0	0
Advances due to the Colony - - -	642	8	0
Arrears of revenue due - - -	7	10	7
Remittances in transit to Crown Agents -	3,100	0	0
Due from Government of South Australia -	112	2	8
Due from Government of Victoria - -	71	10	8
Due from Government of New South Wales -	36	14	8
Total - - - -	28,662	2	0

Liabilities.

	£	s.	d.
Due for Postal Service - - -	1,400	0	0
„ on account of deposits - - -	1,314	6	0
„ to Sierra Leone Government - -	1,181	8	10
„ in the Colony for salaries, &c. - -	100	15	7
„ by Crown Agents, salaries, pensions, &c.	280	12	0
Total - -	4,277	2	5
Excess of assets over liabilities - -	24,384	19	7
	28,662	2	0

Local Revenues.

9. The only local revenue is one arising from a "local rate" of three per cent. on all houses of an annual value exceeding 5*l.*

10. This revenue is raised for the purpose of effecting local improvements, such as the repairs of roads, streets, and the construction and repair of drains and bridges in the town of Bathurst.

11. The amount collected during 1882 was 265*l.* 2*s.* 8*d.* and that expended 371*l.* 14*s.* 0*d.*

12. At the close of the year there was a balance of 137*l.* 5*s.* 8*d.*

Public Debt.

13. During the successful administration of Surgeon-Major Gouldsbury, C.M.G. (now on leave), the Settlement has been relieved from debt, and a handsome balance stands to its credit.

Imports.

	£	s.	d.
14. The value of the imports for 1882, exclusive of specie, amounted to - -	168,133	0	0
That of the imports for 1881, exclusive of specie - - - - -	142,589	0	0
Showing an increase to the amount of -	25,544	0	0

as compared with 1881.

	£	s.	d.
The amount of specie imported in 1882 was -	15,756	0	0
and in the previous year - - -	18,039	0	0
Showing a decrease in 1882 of - -	2,283	0	0

15. The increase in the value of imports is, I apprehend, chiefly owing to the exceptionally good ground nut season of 1882, upon which industry hinges the prosperity of the larger portion of the mercantile community, as well as of the numerous agriculturists, who subsist in a great measure upon the success of their farming operations.

16. There is a decrease in the importation of specie as compared with 1881, but this matter is regulated by the capacity or expediency on the part of the Government to supply cash for bills of exchange. Considerable sums were supplied to merchants during the year, hence there has been less necessity to import specie.

Exports.

17. The subjoined table exhibits a comparative statement for the years 1881–2 of the value of the exports proper of the Gambia for those years :—

Articles.	1882.	1881.
	£	£
Cotton - - -	233	55
Ground nuts - - -	229,701	118,712
Hides - - - -	2,285	3,055
Ivory - - - -	98	41
Pagns (country cloths) - -	1,551	79
Palm kernels - - -	1,270	873
Wax - - - -	2,991	2,439
Totals - -	238,129 125,254	125,254
Increase, 1882 - -	112,875	

18. It will be seen from this statement that there is an increase in all the items of export except hides, which show a decrease of 770*l.*

19. Although the main increase is owing to the prolific yield of ground nuts, the other heads indicate a healthy progressive tendency.

Shipping.

Entered during the Year.	Number.	With Cargo.	In Ballast.	Tons.	
				With Cargo.	In Ballast.
Sailing vessels - - -	160	102	58	19,650	9,531
Steam vessels - - -	53	48	5	48,166	2,931
Total entered - -	213	150	63	67,816	12,462

Cleared during the Year.	Number.	With Cargo.	In Ballast.	Tons.	
				With Cargo.	In Ballast.
Sailing vessels - - -	173	121	52	27,065	1,638
Steam vessels - - -	55	53	2	51,128	50
Total cleared - -	228	174	54	78,193	1,688

Militia.

20. There is a small militia force in the Settlement consisting of the Combo militia and McCarthy's Island militia. Neither of these corps were called out for training during the year.

Public Works.

21. General repairs to public buildings during the year absorbed 599*l.*, repairs to the sea wall amounted to 89*l.*, and new Customs warehouses were completed at a cost of 855*l.*

Legislation.

22. Seven Ordinances were passed during the year, as follows:—

No. 1. An Ordinance to alter and amend the Debtors Ordinance, 1873.

No. 2. An Ordinance for the promotion and assistance of education in the Settlement on the Gambia.

No. 3. An Ordinance to legalise certain payments made in the year 1881 beyond the expenditure authorised by law.

No. 4. An Ordinance to further regulate the procedure in the Court of Civil and Criminal Justice, and to fix the sittings of the said Court.

No. 5. An Ordinance to amend an Ordinance for diminishing expenses and delay in the administration of Criminal Justice in certain cases.

No. 6. An Ordinance to consolidate and amend the laws relating to the Court of Requests.

No. 7. An Ordinance for the trial of certain offences without a jury.

Savings Banks, Friendly Societies, &c.

23. No savings bank exists in the Settlement, though the utility of such an institution would be great. Dr. Gouldsbury, however, pointed out certain difficulties which stood in the way in his report upon the Blue Book for 1881., *q.v.* There are several friendly societies in existence in Bathurst, mostly of the nature of burial clubs; they are all subject to Government supervision, details of which are regulated by Ordinance No. 140 of 1865.

Ecclesiastical.

24. There are three Christian Churches in the Settlement, viz., the Episcopalian, Wesleyan, and Roman Catholic.

25. There are a large number of Mohammedans and many heathens.

26. The Wesleyan appears to be the most popular form of Christian worship amongst the natives, judging from the numbers who adopt that form of religion, the Census of 1881 showing the number attached to that body to be 2,012, whereas the Episcopalians only totalled 819.

27. There is a sisterhood attached to the Roman Catholic Church, whose zeal and earnest endeavours to do good, apart from mere proselytising, cannot be too highly commended.

Education.

28. In addition to the nine schools reported to be in existence in 1881, the Wesleyans have opened two more in Bathurst during the year 1882. The distribution of the various schools will be as follows :—

One Protestant, four Wesleyan, and two Roman Catholic at Bathurst; two Wesleyan in British Combo; one Wesleyan at Borra; and one at McCarthy's Island.

29. The attendance at the Episcopalian school appears to have fallen off, but in other respects the average has been fully maintained.

Agriculture.

30. The staple industry of the Settlement is the cultivation of the ground nut, but Indian corn, rice, and "kons" (a species of millet) are also grown to a smaller degree.

31. The soil in the outlying country, and also in the immediate neighbourhood, is rich, and vast areas only await the cultivation of man to yield generous results, but the native is indolent, and has no thought outside the present, consequently, beyond satisfying his own immediate requirements, he takes no heed of the acres sterile only from neglect. Much of the land on the banks of the river is peculiarly suited to the cultivation of rice, but the supply is by no means equal to the demand; nearly 14,000 tons of rice were imported into the Settlement during the year 1882, whereas, with ordinary industry, this useful grain might be made an article of export. Some hesitation to cultivate for the market no doubt exists from the fear of native wars, the effect of which would be to make the industrious natives the prey of those tribes which for many years yet, I fear, will prefer to supply their needs by the more speedy process of force rather than by honest toil.

32. In regard to the Island of St. Mary, upon which Bathurst is situated, considering that it is but a sand bank, its fertility is marvellous; one species of "Ficus" in particular grows with great luxuriance, affording a grateful shade, and adding considerably to the landscape effect; numerous wild flowers appear shortly after the first rains, and a few conspicuous orchids, one of which (*Gloriosa superba*) is for some weeks a very striking feature in the flora of the Island. It is to be found in other parts of Western Africa, but its natural home would appear to be here, as I have never seen it to such advantage elsewhere,

33. With a little care and some knowledge of gardening, the soil on the Island yields excellent results to the cultivator of European vegetables, cabbage, lettuce, beet root, and the usual catalogue of salads well repay any attention which may be devoted to them, even cauliflower produces a head which, so far as I know, is unprecedented in similar latitudes. I mention these facts, as I believe a thriving industry might be established in these vegetables. Not only the Bathurst market might be supplied, but the steamers and shipping generally would, I am sure, gladly avail themselves of every opportunity to procure such important aids to health in this climate.

GAMBIA.

Manufactures, Mines, Fisheries, &c.

34. The hand-weaving of cotton into native cloths, called "bandy cloth" is the only manufacturing industry in the country.

35. There are no mines in the neighbourhood.

36. The market is well supplied with fish caught principally with the hook. The hand or cast net is also used at times with good results.

Gaols and Prisoners.

37. The Gaol at Bathurst is the common gaol of the Settlement. There is a small prison at Cape St. Mary, British Combo, and one at McCarthy's island. At the latter there is no proper prison staff, the prisoners being under the surveillance of police constables.

38. The "mixed" system is that which obtains in the prisons of the Settlement.

39. The prison discipline is almost wholly deterrent.

Criminal Statistics.

40. There has been a decrease in the convictions in the summary and in the superior courts in 1882 compared with the previous year, the numbers being 197 for 1881, and 177 for 1882.

Population.

41. The census taken in 1881 showed the population of the Settlement to be 14,150. The numbers, I think, do not increase, principally owing to the rate of mortality amongst children, which is a high one, and the natural unhealthiness of a fœtid region known as "Halt Die", where there is a large native settlement. Small-pox is unhappily not an uncommon disease amongst the natives, occasionally assuming an epidemic form and becoming a formidable evil. The year 1882, I am thankful to record, was free from any virulent sickness, though measles towards the end of the year promised to be troublesome; happily, however, the disease passed off without assuming an epidemic form.

Concluding remarks.

42. The year 1882 may fairly be termed a prosperous one for the Settlement. Trade was brisk, and the revenue was above the average. The Baddiboo war came to an end and no fresh native complications arose to cause uneasiness. The climate was less unhealthy than usual, and the season from December to June was particularly cool and pleasant.

43. I regret that I have not been able to enter into greater detail, more particularly in regard to educational matters and criminal statistics, but from reasons previously explained, the transmission of the Blue Book has been unusually delayed; the Colony just now is short handed in regard to officials, and my attention has continually been required to other matters connected

with the Government. I trust, therefore, your Excellency will make allowances for any short comings which you may observe in this report.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. T. CARTER,
Acting Administrator.

His Excellency
The Governor-in-Chief.

SIERRA LEONE.

No.

Governor A. E. HAVELOCK, C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY.

Government House, Sierra Leone,
October 15, 1883.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to submit to your Lordship a report on the returns for the years 1881 and 1882. This report has been prepared by Mr. Griffith, the Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. E. HAVELOCK,
Governor.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Derby,
&c. &c.

REPORT on the BLUE BOOKS of 1881 and 1882.

Revenue and Expenditure.

1. The revenues for the years 1881 and 1882 were 66,785*l.* and 62,486*l.* respectively. Compared with 1880 they exhibited a marked falling off; but 1880 was an exceptionally good year (72,559*l.*). Placed against the average of the preceding five years, viz., 1876 to 1880, which gives 64,858*l.*, 1881 and 1882 do not appear to such disadvantage.

It is natural to look for progression, however, and the reasons for the decrease which occurred in the customs receipts will be found in the paragraphs devoted to trade and commerce.

2. The expenditure for the years 1881 and 1882 was well within the estimated limits, there being a net saving of 6,673*l.* in 1881, and 6,464*l.* in 1882, whilst the expenditure in the aggregate was about the same as previous years.

Comparative tables of receipts and payments for the past three years are inserted.

SIERRA LEONE.

COMPARISON of REVENUE 1880 to 1882.

—	1880.			1881.			1882.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Arrears of revenue - -	190	16	7	—			—		
Customs - - -	64,799	7	11	57,424	3	1	53,841	19	5
Licenses - - -	3,455	4	0	3,572	16	0	3,530	10	6
Rents (exclusive of lands) -	84	0	0	71	0	1	100	11	0
Fines, forfeitures, and fees of court - - - -	1,339	16	8	1,417	0	5	1,226	6	4
Fees of office - - -	--			—			16	6	9
Land sales - - -	57	1	0	65	1	2	320	4	5
Sale of Government property -	23	0	11	142	2	5	41	7	0
Reimbursement-in-aid - -	144	7	5	123	14	8	110	4	4
Miscellaneous receipts - -	69	3	0	344	14	1	505	11	10
Hospital stoppages - -	944	9	8	955	12	4	1,007	5	2
Postage - - -	522	5	7	412	0	5	816	10	0
Incidental.									
Reimbursements-in-aid - -	436	12	5	886	17	6	773	5	5
Miscellaneous receipts - -	492	7	5	1,369	9	8	196	1	1
Postage - - -	—			—			—		
	72,558	12	7	66,784	11	10	62,486	3	3
Receipts-in-Aid.									
Parliamentary grant—Colonial Steamer - - -	3,000	0	0	3,000	0	0	3,000	0	0
Loans - - - - -	—			—			—		
Special Receipts.									
Reimbursements-in-Aid (public works) - - -	—			—			—		
Refund Colonial Steamer -	449	8	9	29	2	2	51	5	5
	76,008	1	4	69,813	14	0	65,537	8	8

COMPARISON of EXPENDITURE 1880 to 1882.

—	1880.			1881.			1882.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Arrears of Expenditure - -	10,075	7	2	—			—		
Ordinary and Fixed.									
Establishments - - -	28,095	15	3	29,016	4	10	29,338	5	11
Miscellaneous Civil Services.									
Revenue service (exclusive of establishment) - -	3	1	0	8	15	0	26	15	11
Pensions, retired allowances and gratuities - - -	3,069	13	4	3,225	17	9	3,423	0	2
Administration of justice (exclusive of establishment) -	306	1	11	435	1	11	503	8	3
Ecclesiastical (exclusive of establishment) - -	74	15	1	98	13	3	152	14	4
Charitable allowances - -	401		0	400	0	0	464	0	0

Comparison of Expenditure, 1880 to 1882—*continued.*

—	1880.			1881.			1882.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
Education (exclusive of establishment) - -	47	11	0	61	18	5	798	17	2
Hospitals (exclusive of establishment) - - -	2,298	2	4	2,440	8	5	2,981	17	8
Police and gaols (exclusive of establishment) - -	2,067	17	5	3,219	8	6	2,342	2	0
Rent - - -	310	8	0	283	2	8	329	9	11
Transport - - -	3,787	15	6	2,767	8	6	2,872	15	7
Conveyance of mails - -	350	7	6	350	11	5	374	11	4
Works and buildings - -	3,415	7	0	3,599	9	4	4,962	7	8
Roads, streets, and bridges -	861	14	0	998	1	11	1,500	17	7
Miscellaneous services - -	4,407	15	0	3,689	11	9	1,072	16	1
Aborigines - - -	3,104	11	6	2,790	18	11	2,889	0	5
Drawbacks and refund - -	552	12	4	424	11	5	819	2	9
Interest - - -	3,346	2	5	2,999	14	3	3,003	1	9
Sinking fund - - -	1,000	0	0	1,000	0	0	1,000	0	0
Sanitary (exclusive of establishment) - - -	533	1	4	713	0	7	771	14	1
Investments - - -	—			—			111	7	6
	68,128	19	1	58,522	18	10	59,738	6	1
Special.									
Colonial steamer - -	3,645	16	0	2,807	4	5	3,174	13	4
Public works—harbour - -	—			—			—		
Debt repaid - - -	16,000	0	0	10,000	0	0	—		
	87,774	15	1	71,530	3	3	62,912	19	5

Revenue.

3. Beyond Customs, the other items of receipt call for little remark.

Land Sales amounted to 320*l.* in 1882, principally the result of the purchase by Mr. S. Lewis of 1,350 acres of land at 4*s.* 2*d.* per acre.

The receipts under the head of Postage in the same year were greatly augmented by the fees on money orders, &c., hitherto paid to the postmaster, being transferred to the General Revenue of the Colony.

Miscellaneous receipts were increased in consequence of a portion of the escheated property of the late J. B. Pratt falling to the Crown.

The re-seating of St. George's Cathedral conduced to an increase in the pew rents, the fees on which, however, are very moderate.

SIERRA LEONE.

Expenditure.

4. In the year 1881 only two items exceeded the amount estimated, namely, Police and Miscellaneous. The former, 694*l.*, was incurred principally through the purchase of 300 Snider rifles, with accoutrements, for use of the police as occasion requires; the latter, 826*l*, included the cost of the Census, 478*l.* and the visit of the Commissioners to Paris, in view of a final settlement of the question of the boundaries and jurisdiction between the English and French Governments of territory north of Sierra Leone. 200*l.* was also paid in purchase of the Law Library of the late A. Montague; 10,000*l.* was paid in further liquidation of the debt due to the Imperial Government.

5. The saving in the expenditure of the departments was general.

In salaries alone, fixed and provisional, the sum of 2,300*l.* remained unexpended. The claims made on the Hospital Department were lighter, and a judicious local preparation of tinctures by the Senior Assistant Surgeon, Dr. Smith, produced a saving in imported medicines.

In the Transport Department much less was expended.

6. In 1882 a saving of 4,772*l.* in salaries fixed, occurred principally in the Secretariat, Survey, Ecclesiastical and Police Departments; in the Transport Department also 1,127*l.* was saved; a carefully exercised economy in the Police and Gaol Departments also produced 533*l.* Similar minor savings took place in other departments. By these means the Government has accumulated a sum towards a further reduction of its indebtedness.

7. The only important increase over the estimated expenditure occurred in Works and Buildings, where 962*l.* was spent in excess of the vote of 4,000*l.* placed under that head. Beyond the ordinary repairs and maintenance of public buildings throughout the Settlement, which never fail, in a climate like that of West Africa, to require continual attention, a new Court House was built at Sherbro, and extensive alterations and repairs to public buildings at that place made generally.

The substantial alterations to St. George's Cathedral, were completed as well as the effectual drainage of a large portion of a swampy district in Freetown, known as Grassfields, considered desirable, if only on sanitary grounds.

Public Debt.

8. The reduction of the debt, which at the close of 1880 stood at 83,000*l.*, is progressing satisfactorily. On the 31st of December 1882 it stood on paper at 73,000*l.*, but, practically, the debts of a Colony, like those of an individual, may be said to be the amount which is deficient after deducting every sound and available asset.

The following Statement will explain the financial position of Sierra Leone on the 31st December 1882.

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Assets and Liabilities on 31st December 1882.

Assets.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Cash in Colonial chest	1,070	5	4			
Cash in hands of Crown Agents	2,818	15	2			
Remittances in transit	569	0	0			
Advances due to Colony	3,426	15	3			
Arrears of revenue	218	10	3			
Parliamentary grant due on account of Colonial steamer for 9 months	2,250	0	0			
General funds invested	16,600	0	0			
Deposits invested	1,000	0	0			
Sinking fund accumulated	13,089	12	9			
				41,042	18	9
Liabilities.						
Repayment of the Public Works Loan of 1871 and 1873	50,000	0	0			
Imperial Government, balance of loan of 38,000*l.*	23,000	0	0			
Deposits	2,336	7	11			
Salaries, pensions, and other expenses unpaid, 31st December 1882	2,930	7	7			
				78,266	15	6
Excess of liabilities				37,223	16	9

9. The repayment of the 50,000*l.* does not take place until 1896 and 1898, 1,000*l.* being set aside yearly for the Sinking fund. As this Fund on the 31st December 1882 amounted to 13,089*l.* 12*s.* 9*d.*, leaving, therefore, 36,910*l.* 7*s.* 3*d.* to be provided by 1898, it is a reasonable assertion to state that the Settlement at the close of 1882 was in a state of solvency.

This is the first time for a long period of years that such a statement could have been made.

Imports, Exports, Trade and Commerce.

10. The imports for 1881 amounted to 348,401*l.*, the lowest return since 1876; a slight increase took place in 1882 when they reached 366,173*l.*

A peculiar feature with respect to this apparent increase needs explanation.

Though the value of imports increased the duties received on them declined in 1882 by some 5,500*l.* as compared with 1881. It is accounted for thus:

The three principal dutiable articles, namely, Geneva, rum, and tobacco, were priced at a higher value in 1882 than in 1881, to instance—

In 1881:—

Geneva was valued at 2*s.* 10*d.* per gallon.
Rum „ „ 1*s.* 9*d.* „
Tobacco „ „ 4¼*d.* per lb.

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In 1882—

Geneva was valued at 3*s.* 7*d.* per gallon.
Rum „ „ 2*s.* 3*d.* „
Tobacco „ „ 6*d.* per lb.

whilst the quantities imported were :—

	1881.	1882.
Geneva	57,635 gallons.	42,106 gallons.
Rum	190,254 „	150,895 „
Tobacco	881,890 lbs.	794,019 lbs.

their total values being recorded as—

	1881.	1882.
	£	£
Geneva	8,375	7,718
Rum	16,977	17,584
Tobacco	15,717	20,293

the duties realizing—

	1881.	1882.
	£	£
Geneva	5,763	4,210
Rum	19,025	15,089
Tobacco	14,698	13,233

It will thus be observed how such an anomaly arises.

11. In articles of food, it is a remarkable and gratifying feature that less has been imported, because it shows that the people are depending to a greater extent than formerly upon the food supply of their own country.

The comparisons are as follows :—

	1880.	1881.	1882.
	£	£	£
Bread	3,092	2,264	2,344
Flour	8,747	6,225	4,809
Rice	25,664	9,936	3,258

Exports.

12. In 1881 the exports were valued at 365,862*l.*, and in 1882 at 420,017*l.*

The increase arises in the enlarged quantities of benni seed, palm oil, kernels, rubber, and hides.

Rubber is particularly noticeable; this staple has increased from 829,636 lbs. in 1880 to 966,594 lbs. in 1881, and 1,388,150 lbs., or about 620 tons, in 1882.

Ginger, the only article grown on the peninsula, has declined from 840 tons in 1880 to 445 tons in 1881 and 465 in 1882.

Ground nuts have gone down to 142,156 bushels in 1881 and 148,434 bushels in 1882.

13. These quantities compared with the crop of 1879 with its 608,622 bushels, are undeniable proofs of the effects of the inter-tribal feuds in the surrounding country. But it may be asked, why do these wars not affect to a similar extent the other productions? The answer is very simple.

Ground nuts have to be grown and cultivated, and therefore demand peace and attention, whilst rubber and palm kernels are only collected, and being less bulky are more easy of transport; important considerations in disturbed districts.

14. But the rubber is *imported* here, and is not the growth or trade of this settlement at all; at least half of the 620 tons said to be exported in 1882, was simply accumulated in Freetown from vessels arriving from the Northern rivers and shipped by English and American vessels for their respective markets.

Gum copal, a most useful export has also declined.

15. The following table of customs receipts for the last three years, gives in detail the various items collected under that head.

	1880.			1881.			1882.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
Wharfage - - -	6,022	16	11	4,510	9	11	4,380	5	1
Tonnage - - -	3,117	5	0	2,360	7	0	2,814	5	6
Light - - - -	1,308	7	6	1,059	8	0	1,246	16	9
Harbour - - -	610	0	0	480	10	0	547	16	9
Warehouse rent - - -	945	16	10	693	17	3	809	19	7
Auction duties - - -	47	0	0	36	14	11	2	2	2
Loggie defalcation - -	1,046	16	9	—			—		
Imports - - - -	45,020	11	3	41,793	19	5	36,251	18	7
Exports - - - -	6,680	13	8	6,488	16	7	7,788	15	0
Total customs - - -	64,799	7	11	57,424	3	1	53,841	19	5

Shipping.

16. A return is appended giving the number and tonnage of steamers and sailing vessels entered and cleared for the years 1880, 1881, and 1882.

Decked long boats have been entered as vessels in 1882.

ENTERED.

—	Sailing.	Tonnage.	Steam.	Tonnage.	Total Vessels.	Total Tonnage.
1880 - -	205	27,044	194	172,513	399	199,557
1881 - -	225	19,227	188	146,348	413	165,575
1882 - -	400	28,850	324	213,215	724	242,065

CLEARED.

—	Sailing.	Tonnage.	Steam.	Tonnage.	Total Vessels.	Total Tonnage.
1880 - -	213	28,817	198	172,909	411	201,726
1881 - -	219	20,806	167	139,419	386	160,225
1882 - -	463	28,508	347	231,847	810	260,355

Civil Establishment.

17. In 1881 the most important changes were, the arrival of Governor Havelock, C.M.G., on the 27th June, and his Excellency's assumption of the Government on the same day.

Mr. W. W. Streeten, C.M.G., Chief Justice, having been invalided to England on the 2nd May whilst administering the Government, the acting Chief Justice, Mr. F. F. Pinkett, assumed, by virtue of that office, and in conformity with letters patent in accordance with the terms of the charter, the administration of the Government.

Captain Jackson, R.A., Inspector General of Police, Mr. F. Evans, and Mr. P. Hughes were temporarily transferred to render assistance in various capacities to the Gold Coast Government during the threatened Ashantee invasion.

The Colonial Secretary, Mr. T. Risely Griffith left for England on 13th July on leave of absence, his place being supplied by Mr. P. Hughes.

Captain Richmond, an assistant Colonial Secretary and Treasurer being absent on leave through prolonged illness for the entire year, Mr. C. H. H. Moseley was appointed to act as an assistant Secretary and Treasurer for six months.

18. A new temporary office was created by the appointment of Mr. W. J. Mercer as Surveyor of Crown Lands in June 1881, but this officer temporarily succeeded Mr. Jenkins as acting Colonial Surveyor on the latter being invalided to England in November on leave, at the conclusion of which he retired on a pension.

Mr. George Murison, a European foreman of works, died on the 30th May, after a residence of eight years.

The Customs Department was placed in charge of Mr. Adolphus, Police Magistrate, during the usual leave of absence granted to Mr. Stuart, the collector.

The Post Office management changed hands five times in 1881.

The Audit Office similarly was under the charge of four different officials.

For a portion of the year the charge of the Medical Department was under the Assistant Surgeon Dr. Smith, Dr. Hume Hart the Colonial Surgeon, being on leave.

The Civil Commandant of Sherbro, Mr. T. A. Wall, was granted leave of absence on 31st August, his place being filled by Mr. W.

M. Laborde, who had previously, from the 17th May till early in September, acted for Mr. W. Budge, manager of the 2nd eastern district, also absent on leave.

The Chief Justice, Mr. Streeten, and the Crown Solicitor, Mr. Pinkett, were also absent for certain periods.

The under gaoler, John Thompson, resigned 11th April, and Samuel G. Thomas was appointed to the vacancy.

Bishop Cheetham went on leave on 14th June, and subsequently retired on a pension on the 14th December.

19. Records like the foregoing of changes in the principal offices only, no notice having been taken of the junior staff, are silent but conclusive proofs of the difficulties experienced by the executive in carrying on the work of Government.

20. In 1882 the general movements were less frequent; Governor Havelock paid a short visit to Monrovia, Liberia, in March, Mr. Acting Chief Justice Pinkett temporarily administering. Goldstone Pratt, Government House messenger, unfortunately met his death on this journey whilst crossing the Gallinas Bar on the 30th March.

Mr. Evans, C.M.G., was transferred to the Gold Coast as an Assistant Colonial Secretary.

Mr. C. H. H. Moseley was appointed Sub-treasurer and Collector at Sherbro 25th June. Mr. James H. Spaine received the appointment of Postmaster on 1st July.

Mr. P. Hughes' services were placed at the disposal of the Gambia Government for a short period prior to the re-organisation of the Customs and Treasury Department of that Settlement.

21. The office of Chief Justice changed hands four times in 1882, Mr. F. F. Pinkett being subsequently confirmed by Her Majesty on the recommendation of the Secretary of State, on the 21st August.

On the appointment of Mr Pinkett to be Chief Justice, the office of Crown Solicitor created in 1880 was abolished, and a revival of the office of Queen's Advocate decided upon. No appointment was made, however, until 1883.

Mr. W. M. Laborde was appointed an Assistant Colonial Secretary and Treasurer on 14th March to take charge of the Aborigines Department. He continued, however, to act as Civil Commandant of Sherbro to the close of the year.

22. The office of Auditor General was again permanently established, and Mr. J. C. Gore assumed the duties on the 23rd September.

The Inspector of Schools for the West Coast of Africa, the Rev. M. Sunter, M.A., arrived on the 22nd December.

The Colonial Surgeon, Dr. W. Hume Hart, was granted two months' vacation leave to proceed on a mission to the Yonnie country.

Dr. M. L. Jarrett, Assistant Colonial Surgeon at Sherbro was confirmed in that appointment on 22nd June.

Mr. Daniel Carrol was appointed Master of the Supreme Court on 1st December.

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Mr. W. E. Inniss was removed on 18th August from the keepership of the gaol and subsequently appointed to a minor office in the Survey Department. Mr. Robert Wade, sergeant-major in the 1st West India Regiment was appointed gaoler on the 4th October.

The Rev. P. H. Douglin succeeded the Rev. M. Sunter as Acting Colonial Chaplain on the 6th October.

23. A proportion of European Officers took their regular leave. They comprised Captain Jackson, R.A., Inspector General of Police; Mr. M. V. D. Stuart, Collector of Customs; Mr. P. Hughes and Mr. G. A. Banbury, Assistant Colonial Secretaries and Treasurers; and Dr. Smith, Assistant Colonial Surgeon.

Mr. E. Adolphus, Police Magistrate, returned from regular leave in March. Lieutenant Compton, R.N., in command of the Colonial Government Steamer "Prince of Wales" was granted leave of absence in May.

Mr. Wall, Commandant of Sherbro was absent the entire year.

Captain Richmond, Assistant Colonial Secretary and Treasurer, was sent on special duty to Onitsha on the Niger River in May. He returned in July in ill health and was invalided to England in August.

Councils and Assemblies.

24. The death of the Honourable William Grant, which took place in England on the 28th of January 1882, created a vacanc at the Legislative Council Board, which was filled by the appointment of another native gentleman, the Honourable Mr. Samuel Lewis, Barrister-at-Law, on the 28th February 1882.

The Honourable John Broadhurst having retired from the European firm of Messrs. Randall and Fisher, in which he was a partner, and having taken up his residence in England, tendered his resignation as a member of Council, which was accepted early in 1883.

Pensions.

25. In 1881 there was but slight alteration. Mrs. R. Dougan, the yearly recipient of 100*l.*, died in July.

John M. Thomas and Ebenezer Collins were granted pensions of 41*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* and 59*l.* 4*s.* 2*d.*, the former having served as clerk in the Registrar's office, the latter retiring after an unbroken service of 43 years as keeper and dresser at the Lunatic Asylum.

Samuel Lemon, for many years a Freetown Harbour pilot, was granted a pension of 26*l.*

A gaol warder and two policemen obtained retiring allowances, totalling 38*l.* 5*s.* 2*d.*

Quite at the close of the year, Bishop Cheetham was retired on a pension of 200*l.* per annum, of which sum this Colony contributes half.

26. In 1882 the late Postmaster, Mr. I. Fitzjohn, with a Colonial pension of 95*l.* 16*s.* 8*d.*, was, on the 5th of September, removed from the list by death.

Mr. J. W. Jenkins, late Colonial Surveyor, retired on a pension of 200*l.* per annum, he having been appointed in 1869; and Mr. W. W. Streeten, C.M.G., late Chief Justice and previously Queen's Advocate, was granted in September a retiring allowance of 396*l.* 16*s.* 8*d.*, whilst four members of the Police force and a district medical dresser were added to the list with pensions amounting in the whole to 72*l.* 5*s.* 4*d.*

Agriculture.

27. In the Blue Book for 1880 mention was made of some attempts at cultivation by Messrs. Grant and Lewis. Since that was written, Mr. Grant has died; and any progress in planting that was made at Rowesville during his lifetime has now disappeared.

28. The Honourable Mr. Lewis has, however, purchased land of his own, 1,350 acres, from the Government, and devotes time, attention, and capital to the growth of such tropical produce as is known to thrive. Coffee, nutmegs, and copra (cocoa-nuts) are reported to be doing well, and in due course of time good results and a profitable return on the outlay are confidently expected.

29. A purchase of 100 acres was made in 1881 by Surgeon Major Alexander Johnston, but as he has been personally absent for many months, it is too much at present to expect that any planting operations he may have engaged in will be productive of marked results.

30. Messrs. Bright and Lardner obtained leases on advantageous terms from the Government in 1882; the former is working some 250 acres at Lumley quietly, but usefully, and in due time will doubtless become an exporter.

Mr. Lardner, unfortunately, never get beyond his lease, and the estate of Kimberley at Pa Lokkoh up the Sierra Leone river was transferred by consent to Messrs. G. B. Williams and S. B. Cole. Their operations have been very limited.

31. It is much to be regretted that agriculture possesses no attraction for the Sierra Leonian. Beyond the scratching of the ground here and there, which occasionally causes the wholesale destruction of valuable timber trees, to produce probably in the end a few shillings worth of cassada, nothing worth mentioning, except a little ginger and some market produce, is ever grown on the peninsula.

Trade and barter, peddling and huckstering, alone appear to possess charms for the lazy mass of the inhabitants, both male and female, which only prohibitive taxation, an expedient calculated to meet with much opposition however, would cause them to relinquish.

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Population.

32. The census of Sierra Leone and its Dependencies, taken on the 3rd April 1881, gave the following results:—

—	Resident.	Floating Population.	Total.
Whites - - - -	163	108	271

Of these 163 were British and 35 French; the balance comprised 11 nationalities.

Africans and their descendants numbered 60,275, making a total of 60,546; of which 31,201 were males and 29,345 females.

They were located as follows:—

Peninsula of Sierra Leone including British Quiah - - - - -	53,862
Isles de Los - - - -	1,371
Kikonkeh - - - -	52
Island of Tasso in Sierra Leone river -	828
Occupiers of Government factories in Sierra Leone river - - -	100
Sherbro, including Mocolo, Mokate, Runteh, York Island, Yelbana, Victoria, Tasso, Bendoo, and Jamaica - - -	4,333
	60,546

33. The number of the various divisions of the races were:—

Europeans - - - -	271
Liberated Africans and their descendants - - - -	35,430
Natives, *i.e.*, children of strange tribes born in Sierra Leone - -	3,384
Timmanees - - -	7,443
Mendis - - - -	3,088
Sherbros - - - -	2,882
Soosoos - - - -	1,470
Loccos - - - -	1,454
Mandingoes - - - -	1,190
Gallinas - - - -	697
Kroomen - - - -	610
Limbas - - - -	493
West Indians - - -	393
Baggas - - - -	340
Foulahs - - - -	225
Jolloffs - - - -	189

Serrakulies - - - -	129
Bullams - - - -	110
Miscellaneous, *i.e.*, any tribe not herein detailed - - - -	748
	60,546

34. The occupations of the people were as follows:—

Government officers, including policemen and crew of Government steamer -	679
Ministers of religion, members of legal and medical professions - - -	159
Merchants and merchants' clerks - -	528
Traders and hawkers - - -	10,815
Farmers, farm labourers and market people	12,317
Grumettas, labourers and house servants -	3,767
Fishermen and native seamen - -	1,964
Mechanics - - - -	2,293
Butchers, bakers, &c. - - -	318
Miscellaneous - - - -	4,111
Transient traders and strangers - -	1,357
School children - - - -	12,592
Infants - - - - -	3,683
No occupation - - - -	5,963
	60,546

35. The religious divisions were as under:—

Episcopalians and Presbyterians -	18,845
Wesleyan and African Methodists -	17,098
Baptists - - - -	388
Lady Huntingdon's Connexion -	2,717
Roman Catholics - - -	369
Jews - - - -	4
Mahommedans - - -	5,178
Pagans - - - -	15,947
	60,546

36. As the Census taken in 1871 was not altogether reliable and the area on this occasion was larger than in that year, no accurate deductions as to the increase and decrease can be given, but after a careful analysis the officer in charge of the census estimates the increase during the last decade to be about 5,000.

Considering the difficulties to be overcome in dealing with an ignorant and superstitious population, and in many cases the inefficient character of the enumerators, the census was a difficult undertaking; nevertheless it was satisfactorily performed. The total cost was 478*l.*, or an average of $1\frac{7}{8}d.$ per head.

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Education.

37. It is a pleasing duty to be able to report that the education question was revived in 1881 after lying dormant for many years, and that in 1882 an Ordinance for the promotion and assistance of education throughout the Settlement passed the Legislature. The machinery in connexion with the same was set in motion by Governor Havelock, and the provisions of the Ordinance carried out. A Government Inspector of Schools was appointed conjointly for the Gold Coast Colony and the West Africa Settlements, rules and regulations were passed, a board of members selected, and the Rev. M. Sunter, M.A., concluded his inspection of elementary schools in September 1882.

Subsequently he held an examination of those desirous of qualifying as schoolmasters, at which some 32 persons presented themselves.

38. It would be impossible to deal with all the points raised in the first general report made by the Inspector, but the general results may be briefly summarised. The number of schools examined was 75. The number of children on the rolls was 8,136, of these 2,591 or 36·2 were examined.

The total passes obtainable were 8,402, the number obtained, 4,828, they were made up as follows:—

Reading - - - -	1,870
Writing and dictation - -	1,282
Arithmetic - - - -	1,193
Geography and History - -	317
Grammar - - - -	166
	4,828

The per-centage of passes was:—

Reading - - - -	72·2
Writing and Dictation - -	49·5
Arithmetic - - - -	46·
Geography and History - -	44·4
Grammar - - - -	63·7
Minor Subjects - - -	54·7

The average attendance in all schools of those pupils over six years of age was 3,595; of those under six years of age, 1,215. Government grants-in-aid were paid amounting to 313*l.* 9*s.* 3*d.*

39. The Inspector drew particular attention to the deficiency of school books in some of the schools, and remarked that apparatus and materials generally were very deficient. The pay of the teachers throughout was totally inadequate, the average being 2*l.* 2*s.* a month for the men, the female teachers receiving the merest pittance.

It is no wonder, therefore, that the teaching power as a whole was extremely poor.

The present system of teaching is purely denominational, a natural consequence of a long continuance of missionary agency.

The establishment of group schools in many villages is recommended, doing away with the existing numerous small gatherings and creating one village school on undenominational principles.

40. As no Government inspection has taken place since 1876, in which year the grants-in-aid were withdrawn, comparisons cannot be given, but there is every reason to believe that efforts will be made by the various bodies to advance education in view of the revived interest taken by the Government in fostering that increasing desire for universal education which in these enlightened days the civilized people of Western Africa are anxious to participate in.

41. On the 1st of February 1882 the Colonial Government took over from the Church Missionary Society the Liberated African school at the village of Charlotte in the mountain district.

This school was formed for the teaching of liberated African children who are occasionally brought to the Settlement, and a sum of 6*d.* per diem for each child is allowed by the Imperial Government for its maintenance.

The buildings are the property of the Imperial Government: the school had been under the immediate control of Bishop Cheetham, who, upon finally retiring from his charge, would have disbanded the school, had not the Executive wisely accepted the responsibility of its continuance, backed by the amount of the Imperial allowance which nearly covers the expenses consequent thereon. It is a creditable institution, the children are trained in habits of domestic usefulness, and many of them are placed in situations as they grow up, where they earn a livelihood for themselves and become useful members of the community.

Gaols.

42. The returns for 1881 and 1882 taken together exhibit no decrease as compared with 1880.

The daily average in the Freetown gaol was, in 1881, 127, and in 1882, 146.

The total number of prisoners committed in 1880 was 732, in 1881, 590, and in 1882, 784.

Thus it will be seen that whatever hopes might have been entertained in 1881 of a decrease in the criminal classes, were lost in the following year.

43. It may be averred that until the Sierra Leone gaol is capable of providing separate confinement and classification, and thereby becomes more deterrent in its effect, the admission of criminals will remain undiminished.

It is thought by some that the prison fare is too generous, in many instances it is a fact that the dietary they receive is superior in quantity and quality to that which they obtain when free.

It is a matter for regret that a system of task work is not established in the prison, its non-fulfilment being punished with short rations. The employment of two or three European warders, should be kept in view when a new gaol, in contemplation at no very distant date, is carried into effect.

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Hospitals, Asylums, &c.

44. In 1881 and 1882 the admissions into the Colonial Hospital, Freetown, were 432 and 502; adding those in hospital at the commencement of the year, it gives a total number of 469 and 541 respectively.

The per-centage of deaths on the numbers treated in hospital was 12·36 in 1881, and 11·46 in 1882.

The daily average was 35 in 1881, and 40 in 1882.

45. In the Sherbro hospital there were 57 admissions in 1881, including those in hospital at commencement of year, and in 1882, 115 on the same basis.

46. In the male and female incurable hospitals at Kissy the number treated during the year 1881 was 138, and in 1882, 136; the death per-centage running to 27·54 and 25·73.

The small-pox hospital is dealt with under Public Health. The number of successful vaccinations performed in 1881 and 1882 were 5,614 and 2,700.

Lunatic Asylum.

47. The total number of lunatics, male and female, confined in 1881, including 11 fresh admissions, was 51; there were 10 deaths and three discharges, cured. In 1882 there were 68 treated in all, of these 18 died, and of this number 13 had been admitted within the year, the bodily condition of 12 being described on admission as weak and feeble.

Public Health.

48. During the year 1881 the attention of the Government was for the first time directed to several cases of *cysticercus cellulosæ*, with which the meat, especially beef, exposed for sale in the public market, as well as that supplied to the troops, was infested. The disease appeared, on close examination and inquiry, to be wide spread, and apparently existed for some time previously, but had escaped the attention of the medical authorities, who at once determined what it was when brought to their notice.

The Sanitary Department being put upon its guard, have been very watchful in examining all meat since exposed for sale, which has resulted in many tons being destroyed as unfit for human consumption.

Notwithstanding the vigilance of the sanitary inspector and his staff, it is certain that much meat containing *cysticerci* has been consumed, and the operations of the department have been greatly hampered by the butchers, who, finding that slaughtering became a precarious business, owing to the uncertainty in the out-turn of the carcase, there being no well-defined means of discovering the existence of the disease in the living animal, have endeavoured to evade in many ways a scrutiny of the meat. Nor

have the general public exhibited any marked abhorrence of consuming this embryo of the tape worm, *tænia medio canellata* At first there was some stir made, but gradually it wore off, and within a few months many of those who purchased meat became somewhat indifferent as to the existence of the *cysticerci* in it. They saw no immediate ill affects arising from its consumption, and believing that the larvæ were killed by cooking, the scruples of many have been overcome, and beef is freely eaten again.

The Government inspector and military authorities keep a sharp look out, however, and the meat is seized and destroyed whenever it is found in the condition described.

49. That many persons are now suffering from tape-worm is known, and it is but reasonable to suppose that it is attributable to the consumption of meat containing *cysticerci.*

It does not appear that the disease is confined to any particular locality, as a moderate per-centage of cattle brought from a distance in the interior have been found to be infected.

That high authority the late Dr. Parkes, in his Scientific Manual of Practical Hygiene, enters at length in the interesting chapter on food, on the best means of cooking such meat if dire necessity compels, but advises its total rejection where possible.

50. During 1882 there was a remarkable plague of chigoes, *pulex penetrans.* A few cases had been brought to notice early in the year, but towards the close of it the place seemed to swarm with these obnoxious insects, and numbers of persons of all ages were to be seen limping about the thoroughfares suffering from sores produced by the unskilful attempts to remove the bag or sac which the insect made, from their feet. The Colonial hospital contained a large number of cases of ulcers in the feet, all produced from the want of care and attention in extracting the chigoe.

51. An outbreak of small-pox occurred in the dry and early portion of 1882, during which period there were some 118 admissions to the small-pox hospital, and the mortality for the whole year (1882), was 22½ per cent. of the admissions.

But for the energy of the Sanitary Department in finding and reporting cases, and their subsequent skilful treatment, there is no doubt a larger per-centage would have been recorded.

The Colonial Surgeon, Dr. W. Hume Hart, in his annual report says:—

"Small-pox has made frightful ravages in this Colony, persons attacked with the confluent form rarely recover, and those who have not been properly treated for a milder form bear life-long scars on their faces. These scars I have observed in every village in the Timmanee country, and they represent many deaths among the less favoured victims of this scourge."

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Further on he adds:—

"From the way it is constantly recurring it would seem to be a disease endemic, and subject to frequent exacerbation, rather than an epidemic visitor to this Colony."

52. Intelligence was received in August 1881 that yellow fever had broken out at Saint Louis (Senegal); it therefore became necessary to issue an official notification intimating that vessels arriving from places on the north-western coast between 13° 36′ N. and 16° 2′ N. would be subjected to 21 days' quarantine.

This notice was withdrawn in February 1882 when the disease had disappeared.

Unfortunately, similar measures became necessary in August 1882, the malady on this occasion breaking out at Goree, but reports of its disappearance in November permitted the authorities to again raise the quarantine.

Some half dozen vessels were subjected to various short periods of detention. No case of yellow fever occurred in Sierra Leone.

Legislation.

53. During the year 1881, twelve Ordinances were passed.

Nos. 1 and 2 dealt with the census.

No. 3 conferred on C. A. Verminck the capacity to hold real property in Sierra Leone.

No. 4 repealed two Ordinances regulating the sale of explosives, and made other provisions in lieu thereof.

Nos. 5 and 12 were Supply Ordinances.

Nos. 6 and 7 related to Public Health, and made general provision for the treatment of small-pox patients, a most beneficial measure, the usefulness of which was soon proved.

No. 8 legalised the detention of certain political prisoners and their deportation to Lagos.

No. 9.—"The Supreme Court Ordinance" altered and amended the law as administered by the Supreme Court and contained many useful clauses relating to the better administration of justice throughout the Settlement

It gave the Chief Justice power to make rules and orders, dealt with the law of evidence, regulated the admission of barristers and solicitors, defined the authority of the court in questions of lunacy, probate and divorce, and generally regulated its constitution.

No. 10 was an Education Ordinance, of which it is unnecessary to speak, as it was repealed in 1882, and replaced by a more workable enactment.

No. 11, cited as the "Gaol Ordinance," consolidated the Ordinances having reference to the employment of convicts, and made better provision for the good government of the gaols of the Settlement.

Agreeably with its provisions an excellent set of prison rules were drawn up and approved, and were brought into operation early in 1882.

54. In 1882, nineteen Ordinances were passed.

Nos. 1, 11, 13, and 15 were Customs Amendment Ordinances, the first re-arranged the export duties on ground nuts, palm kernels, and benniseed, and re-enacted a fresh list of goods exempt from duties. No. 15 also created a duty of 6*d.* per old wine gallon on kerosine oil.

Nos. 6 and 14 legalized the detention and confinement of certain political prisoners.

No. 2 transferred to the Senegal and West Coast of Africa Company, the same powers as those conferred on Mons. Verminck in Ordinance No. 3 of 1881.

No. 3 dealt with education and was a most important Ordinance.

It provides for the appointment of a Government inspector of schools, a board of education, the payment of Government grants-in-aid to schools under certain conditions, and also to training colleges, and strengthened generally the claims of education.

No. 4 made some amendment in previous Public Health enactments.

No. 5 exempted steam vessels of regular trading companies from the payment of harbour and tonnage dues in Sierra Leone provided they made Sherbro a port of call.

No. 7 dealt with the police of the Settlement, and contained provisions for the organisation, discipline, powers, and duties of the force which cannot fail to be highly beneficial. Under section 7, a new and valuable code of rules has been drawn up by the Inspector-General for the guidance of the officers and men.

Nos. 9 and 19 provided for general expenditure.

Nos. 8 and 10 contained some amendments to the gaol and Supreme Court Ordinances of 1881 No. 12, entitled the "Petroleum Ordinance," regulated the importation, storage, and sale of kerosine and other oils of an inflammable nature, and contained rules for testing the same.

No. 16, an Ordinance to reduce the rate of interest, was not confirmed, its provisions though excellent in themselves being calculated to retard legitimate money operations on a large scale; a subsequent one has however been passed in 1883 which protects the particular class, viz., the small borrowers, which the above Ordinance sought to insure.

No. 17 provides and regulates, in conjunction with No. 3 of 1874, the grant of travelling allowances to Government officers.

And No. 18 is an important provision relating to Quarantine and amending previous Ordinances on the subject.

Much useful legislation may on the whole be said to have been carried out.

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Post Office.

55. Sierra Leone was admitted into the Postal Union on the 1st April 1879.

The Money order system which is in full operation with the United Kingdom, the Gold Coast Colony, Lagos, and the Gambia, exhibits a healthy return. In 1881 the sum of 18,132*l.* passed through the Department, and in 1882, 17,643*l.*

Money can now be remitted to England at the low rate of one per cent., a great boon to the general public when it is borne in mind that Post Office Orders are payable on demand.

The Government are enabled to do this by reason of the Commissariat Department taking all such money for disbursement amongst the troops, the Colonial Government receiving drafts in exchange on the Paymaster-General in England.

56. The Post Office in Freetown, Sierra Leone, is a growing institution; no less than 140,219 postal articles were received and despatched from the 1st July to 31st December 1882.

Letters are now sent to the various outstations and Inland Districts throughout the Peninsula, as well as to Sherbro, Shaingay, and the Isles de Los.

57. The Post Office Savings Bank operations were commenced on the 1st January 1882. The total amount deposited in that, its first year, was 775*l.* 17*s.* the withdrawals were 120*l.* 18*s.* 500*l.* of the balance has since been invested in South Australian stock. There were 50 depositors during the year, and the average deposit was 15*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.*

The Savings Bank is placed under the care of the Colonial Treasurer, the Postmaster officiating as clerk with a maximum salary of 100*l.*

Public Works.

58. The completion of the wharf embankment, with its sloping batter-wall of rough blue granite and three sets of steps for the landing of passengers as designed by Sir J. Coode, C.E., may be regarded as one of the most important works carried out in 1881 and 1882.

Prison labour was largely employed.

In both years were extensive repairs effected in the Colonial hospital and gaol, and to Government House.

A large number of small bridges throughout the districts were built, notably at Tombo, Ogoo river, and Hamilton, and the construction of the Kagba Causeway in the Second Eastern District over a wide tract of swampy ground, under the personal superintendence of the manager, Mr. Budge, was a matter for congratulation.

59. The completion of extensive repairs to the cathedral, including reseating and a new pulpit and communion table, was effected, and the addition of chancel furniture, the gift of his

Excellency Governor Havelock, added considerably to its finish and the comfort of the congregation.

The repairs of, and the additions to, the Public Offices and Hospital at Bonthe, and the adaptation of the former police station for the purposes of a gaol, have combined to improve the general efficiency of the Sherbro Administration.

A new market house was built at the village of Gloucester.

The police buildings and Inspectors' quarters in Freetown were restored, and an extensive and important undertaking in draining a large area in the western portion of Freetown was successfully completed.

60. A telephone connecting the Colonial Hospital with the Colonial Surgeon's residence, some half mile distant, was erected and worked satisfactorily.

Consuls, &c.

61. In 1881, Mr. Ernest Vohsen was appointed Consul for the German Empire.

In 1882, Mr. Philip Lemberg was appointed Consul for Portugal, and Mr. Louis Bicaise, Consul for Belgium and the Netherlands, Vice-Consul for Spain, and Acting Consul for Italy.

Her Majesty was pleased to appoint on the 24th January 1882, A. E. Havelock, Esq., C.M.G., Governor of the West Africa Settlements, to be Consul for the Republic of Liberia.

Meteorological Observations.

62. The rainfall of 1881 was 141·82. In 1882 it appears to have declined to a marked extent. The greatest fall recorded in 1881 was 6·06 inches on the 8th of September, and in 1882, on the 20th September, 6·44 inches fell

63. The record kept at the Lunatic Asylum at Kissy, three miles distant from Freetown, was 134·45 inches in 1881, and 74·26, in 1882.

ABORIGINES.

Wars, Missions and Treaties.

64. Early in February 1881, Mr. W. M. Laborde returned from a well-timed mission to the Mendi country; starting from Waterloo, in the Second Eastern District, he proceeded through Quiah, Sennehoo and West Ticonkoh to Tyama, visiting and treating with each chief on his journey, thereby effectually preventing an internecine war between the native chiefs, which—once commenced—would have taken considerable time to settle. Mr. Laborde returned through the Mendi, Bompé, Lubu and Boom countries after an absence of 53 days.

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65. During 1881 and 1882 there were three distinct feuds going on in various parts of the surrounding country, each operating detrimentally to the progress and continuance of the internal trade.

66. The first was an old dispute in the Quiah and Yonnie countries and may be said to have commenced in 1873, presenting various phases in its continuance until the years under review.

The original contention between Bey Simmerah, King of Masimerah, aided by fellow kings of the Marampa, Mabang, and Kolfa countries, and Bey Sherbro of Yonnie, in 1878 appears to have given place in its ramifications to a more direct squabble between Bey Simmerah and Bannah Sebrey on the one hand and Mormoh Racca and Lahai Bundoo on the other, each chief drawing his neighbour more or less into the general quarrel.

The separate contentions of Bannah Sebrey and Lahai Bundoo and other Quiah Chiefs were however amicably arranged by an agreement made in Freetown in 1880. Matters were in this intricate state when Dr. Hume Hart and Mr. E. Vohsen, the latter a representative of a European firm, went up to the Younie country in November 1882 to endeavour to bring about peaceful negotiations. Dr. Hart's stay being prolonged, he was joined by Lieutenant Compton, who with him succeeded in securing a cessation of hostilities and a promise of a palaver on neutral ground.

Thus for years past the produce which came down the Roquelle (Sierra Leone) River, one of the avenues of trade, has been greatly interfered with.

67. In the Kissi Kissi or Moriah country, now regarded as under French jurisdiction, the King Almamey Bokharie, a Soosoo, found himself in 1880 at variance with some of his principal chiefs, who conspired against him mainly because of his determination to punish by death one Foday Murry Cearay Daffae for gross violation of the laws of the Koran. Not obtaining sufficient support, he asked the assistance of certain Timmanee Kings, who, with friendly interposition, were unsuccessful in securing peace.

A general war ensued in these parts between the Moriah and Bennah Soosoos and the Timmanees and other Soosoos headed by Bokharie. This caused a deflection of trade in the Scarcies rivers; and much produce that formerly came to Freetown found in 1881 and 1882 other outlets.

68. Sherbro, surrounded as it is by the Mendis, a notoriously hostile race, has also been the seat of ever recurring troubles, which it is impossible to embody in any brief paragraph.

In 1881 rumours of fresh agitation in the Boom, Kittam and Bompé Mendi countries were reported, and in November, 1881, Governor Havelock met the kings and chiefs of Sherbro and some of the interior Imperreh and Mendi chiefs at Bonthe, demonstrated the evils and absurdities of their wars, and obtained from them a renewal of their promises to bring about peace.

A chief named Seppeh of Bompé Mendi, broke his promises and secured the co-operation of certain other disaffected chiefs,

who clandestinely aided him in hostile operations against one Gberry of the Boom. This may be said to be the prime cause of the later and widespread disturbances in 1882, culminating early in 1883 in the expeditions undertaken by Mr. Administrator Pinkett and ending in the demolition of chief Gpowe's stronghold of Talliah in the Small Boom. Thus has trade been retarded in these districts.

69. Prior to this, and in consequence of the misconduct of chiefs and people of the Jong River towards the Acting Commandant, an expedition was undertaken by Governor Havelock in May 1882, which resulted in the chastisement of the inhabitants of Mattroo, and the capture and detention of one of the chiefs named Lahsurru.

70. On the 19th December 1881, the treaty of Governor Turner dated September 1825, was, for the better tranquillity of the country, re-asserted, acknowledged, and publicly made known, and a new Agreement, with increased annual stipends, was made with Thomas Neale Caulker and Richard Canray Bah Caulker, and several of the sub-chiefs residing in various parts of the country of the latter.

71. A similar declaration was considered necessary in respect to the chiefs and sub-chiefs of Bullom and Shebar, and General Turner's treaty of September and October 1825, was also formally acknowledged by an Agreement dated the 18th November 1882, with the Tucker family, the increase of existing stipends forming a prominent item.

72. In March 1882 an important agreement was entered into with King Jaiah of the Gallinas country, and the principal chiefs of the towns under his sovereignty, including Sulymah and Mannah. By this agreement the whole of the coast for half a mile inland, starting from the north-west boundary of the Gallinas territory to the mouth of the Mannah River is ceded and transferred to Her Majesty.

Caravans and Strangers.

In 1881, 1,809 strangers, comprising caravans of various sizes, arrived in Sierra Leone from the towns and countries of Sego, Bouré, Futah, Falaba, &c. in the interior.

In 1882 the number increased to 2,609. These strangers, who bring amongst other articles gold, ivory, and oxen, are quite distinct, coming as they do from a great distance, from the ordinary trader of the country immediately adjoining this Settlement.

General Remarks.

74. One of the most remarkable trials in the history of these settlements, and known as the Onitsha murder case, took place in September 1882, in Sierra Leone.

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The prisoners, four in number, were charged with flogging to death a girl called Amelia John at Onitsha on the River Niger in 1877. The males, John and Williams, being at the time in the employ of the Church Missionary Society.

The matter arose through representations made by the Rev. J. B. Wood of Lagos to Lieutenant Governor Griffith in September 1880.

A Special Commission under the Great Seal of England was sent out appointing,—

His Honour F. F. Pinkett, Chief Justice, Sierra Leone; the Hon. T. Risely Griffith, Colonial Secretary, Sierra Leone; His Honour F. Smith, Chief Magistrate, Gambia; and W. M. Huggins Esq., Acting Police Magistrate, Sierra Leone, to try the case. Captain Richmond proceeded to Onitsha, secured the prisoners, brought up many eye-witnesses of the outrage; and after a trial of 12 days, at which the Honourable Mr. S. Lewis prosecuted, and Mr. J. A. Macarthy defended, the jury returned a unanimous verdict of manslaughter against all four prisoners, two of whom were sentenced to penal servitude for 20 years, one to penal servitude for 18½ years, and one to imprisonment with hard labour for two years.

The trial obtained a world-wide notoriety.

The entire expenses were borne by the Imperial Government and amounted to about 2,300*l.*

75. A fire in Freetown destroyed on the night of the 22nd February 1881 the premises of Mr. W. R. Taylor in Charlotte Street, valued at about 4,000*l.* Fortunately for the owner an insurance covered the loss.

76. The years under review have been full of interest. The matter of primary importance to the Settlement has been the carrying into effect of a general arrangement decided upon by Her Majesty's Government for the establishment of conterminous boundaries between the territories under the jurisdiction of the Government of Sierra Leone and the Republic of Liberia. The acceptance of a portion of the coast line of the intervening territory is mentioned in paragraph 72 of this Report

When the acquisition of a few miles of territory between the Galliinas and Sherbro is completed, the negotiations for which are, at the moment of writing, almost concluded, the Colony of Sierra Leone will possess jurisdiction over an unbroken coast line with conterminous boundaries from the French Settlements on the North to the Republic of Liberia on the South.

(Signed) T. RISELY GRIFFITH,
October 1883. Colonial Secretary and Treasurer.

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No. 13.

A Report upon the Present Position and Prospects of the Agricultural resources of the Island of St. Helena, by D. Morris, Esq., M.A., F.L.S., F.G.S., Director of Public Gardens and Plantations, Jamaica.

St. Helena lies in lat. 15° 55′ S., and long. 5° 42′ W. It is 1,140 miles from the African coast. It is 1,800 miles from the American coast, 700 miles south of the Island of Ascension, 955 miles due south of the equator, and about 4,000 miles from England.

It was discovered 21st May 1502 by the Portuguese; held by the Dutch until 1651, when the East India Company took it. It was transferred to the Crown in 1833. It has been in British possession about 232 years.

Historically, it is chiefly remembered in connexion with the exile of Napoleon I. After the defeat at Waterloo he was placed a prisoner at St. Helena from 15th October 1815 until his death, 5th May 1821, a period of 5½ years. His body was at first interred near Longwood, but afterwards (1840) removed to France.

The area of St. Helena is about 45 square miles; its extreme length, 10¼ miles, and extreme breadth, 8¼ miles. Of the 28,800 acres of which the island consists, the greater portion suitable for cultivation is in private hands. The Crown lands, with the exception of Longwood Farm and a few other places, are barren wastes on the outskirts of the island, incapable of cultivation.

To understand aright the present condition of the surface of St. Helena it may be mentioned that three fairly distinct zones, each possessing its own special characteristics, are observable both in the geological nature of the soil as well as in the plants which affect them. These are :—

1. *The Coast Zone.*—This, in the present day, is "the dry, barren, " soilless, frowning, lichen-coated, rocky outskirts of the island." At one time it is said to have been covered with abundant vegetation, and with trees drooping over the tremendous precipices that overhang the sea.

The barren coast zone, at present, extends about a mile to a mile and a half around the island. Deep, wide valleys, and rocky, almost inaccessible, ridges run from the central ridge towards the sea, breaking up the coast zone into numerous, almost detached, prominences and ledges. It is absolutely devoid of vegetation except prickly pear, a few plants of *Mesembryanthemum*, and the rare indigenous *Pelargonium*, *Pharnaceum*, and *Tripteris*. On the Barn there are straggling bushes of the scrub-wood (*Aster glutinosus*, Roxb.), which is probably the most abundant of the indigenous plants of the rocky coast.

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The plants on the coast zone are so scattered and for the most part so lodged in crevices and hollows that they do little to redeem the barren, burnt-up appearance which the island presents from the sea.

2. *The Middle Zone.*—This extends about three quarters of a mile inland from the boundary of the coast zone. Its surface is less rocky, with shallower valleys, and more grassy slopes. The elevation is from 400 feet to about 1,800 feet; the temperature is lower; and numerous Australian, Cape, and American shrubs and trees have become established, forming thickets of considerable size. One of the chief features of this middle zone are the furze-clad slopes, with occasionally the indigenous gum woods, and, in moist sheltered hollows, the larger ferns. Longwood and Deadwood, Plantation House, and West Lodge may be said to occupy characteristic positions in this zone. The English brooms, brambles, willows, and poplars, Scotch pines and gorse bushes, Cape of Good Hope bushes, Australian trees, and American weeds have driven out most of the indigenous plants from this belt. The tendency of these introduced plants is to encroach more and more upon the higher lands where the indigenous flora still remains. As regards the larger trees, such as pines and willows (acacias), they appear to be spreading downwards in the direction of the valleys; following, no doubt, the distribution of their seeds by the action of the trade winds.

3. *The Central Zone.*—This occupies a certain extent of land on each side of the central ridge (once the rim of the Sandy Bay volcano). It is altogether not more than about 3 miles long and about 2 miles wide. In some places, as on the southern slopes of the central ridge, the rocks are very precipitous, while in others the land possesses an undulating, "hummocky" character, with grassy slopes, meadows, hayfields, a few farms and gardens, and well wooded glens of oak and acacias. On the extreme crest of the central ridge, extending from High Peak to Rock Rose, there is still left a portion of the indigenous forest, with cabbage trees and ferns, the wild olive (*Nesiota elliptica*), angelica, lobelia, and the delicate campanulate *Wahlenbergia*.

Generally the soil in the central zone is rich though not very deep; the climate is particularly cool, the sky being continually obscured by mist and cloud.

[The character and extent of the zones mentioned above may be gathered from the accompanying map.]

I have previously mentioned that St. Helena contains an estimated area of 28,800 acres. Of this area probably 20,000 acres, or more than two thirds, are composed of barren rocky wastes or clayey slopes totally unfit in their present conditions for any agricultural operations.

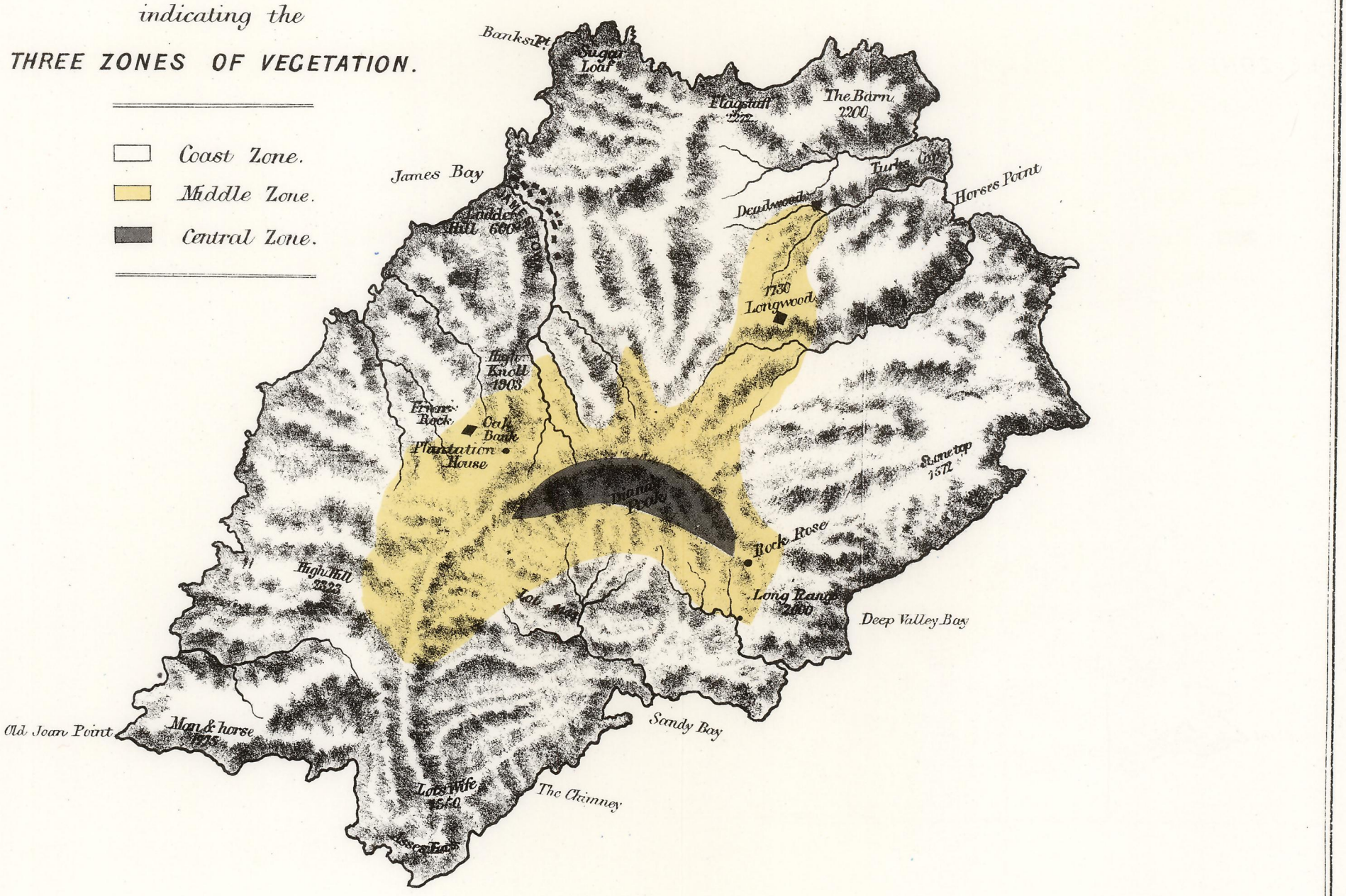
Aloes, *Furcræa*, and plants of this kind may be induced to grow in the more warm and sheltered valleys; and possibly, several hardy trees may be established in other places under careful and proper treatment; but unless pioneering vegetation of this kind is first spread over these wastes to gradually

SKETCH MAP OF St HELENA,

indicating the

THREE ZONES OF VEGETATION.

- *Coast Zone.*
- *Middle Zone.*
- *Central Zone.*



DANGERFIELD. LITH 22 BEDFORD S^r COVENT GARDEN 1820

reclaim them they must continue to remain in their present condition.

About 8,000 acres are in pasture and hay land. The tendency is to throw more and more land out of cultivation and place it in grass. This is a retrograde step as regards the agricultural interests of the island, but it is inevitable under the influences which obtain at present.

The country houses which in the East India Company's time were inhabited by prosperous merchants and officials, and surrounded by well kept gardens and orchards, are now fast falling into decay and becoming ruinous. The cultivated areas around them are simply converted into grazing lands, and a few cattle and sheep are the only indications of life for miles round.

Under forest, both of indigenous and introduced trees, in detached and struggling patches, there may be altogether about 400 acres.

Under cultivation, with root crops, forage, orchards, and gardens, there are not quite 300 acres.

This last area, viz., 300 acres, practically represents all the land now used for raising crops and for contributing to the food supply of the inhabitants.

It will be noticed that this is not all the land capable of being thus utilized. Under a more efficient system of agriculture, and with the introduction and application of capital, the area under crops and garden cultivation might be increased tenfold. In fact, fully one half the land under pasture and hay land might be broken up and utilised for crops, provided a tangible and apparent purpose were in view, and a market found for the produce.

The present population of St. Helena according to the census of 1881, excluding the garrison and shipping, is about 4,500. Of this number more than one half (2,435) live in Jamestown.

As regards occupation, there are only 70 persons (males) returned as farmers and small cultivators, and 477 (males) as labourers.

During the last 10 years large numbers of labourers and small cultivators have emigrated to the Cape and Natal, and at the present time labour is scarce and expensive. Wages range from 2*s.* to 2*s.* 6*d.* per day, but the quality even at this price is not quite satisfactory.

The rainfall at St. Helena is very variable. In Jamestown Valley and the coast zone it is probably as low as 25 or 30 inches. In the middle zone, as at Longwood, the mean annual rainfall (by observation) is 44 inches. On the central ridge it is no doubt higher and may be placed at 55 to 60 inches.

As regards climate St. Helena stands pre-eminent in possessing a remarkably fine and healthy climate. The temperature is uniform; observations at Longwood, at an altitude of 1,764 feet, record the mean temperature for five years at 61·4° Fahrenheit, the lowest being 52° and the highest 77·6° Fahrenheit.

The mean height of the thermometer in the different months ranged from 57·07° in September to 66·24° in March, making an

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average difference of only 9·17 between the hottest and the coldest months.

The trade winds from the south-east blow interruptedly for about 10 months of the year, keeping the air pure and cool.

In respect to its climate I regard St. Helena as a most valuable station for recruiting health, and it is a matter of regret that its resources in this respect have not been more fully appreciated.

During the period when the East India Company held the island, owing to its being so important a station on the then route to India, "it was reared in the lap of luxury." Merchants and officials possessing large incomes were settled in the island; they occupied handsome residences situated in the country parts, and public works and buildings were maintained in a high state of efficiency. The number of vessels calling at the island were reckoned by thousands in the year. Being sailing ships they remained a considerable time in port re-fitting and re-victualling, and they spent annually large sums of money which circulated amongst all classes of the community.

When, however, the Suez Canal was opened and the Cape route was practically abandoned by the largest and best ships to India and the East, and when again the naval and military establishments were reduced to the lowest ebb, then there set in a period of financial depression and general distress which has extended to the present day.

The island has never been able to produce any article of export, and owing to its geographical position and its close connexion with shipping the attention of its inhabitants has been called away from any serious attempt to cultivate the soil for the sake of profit.

Hence now, when the number of ships calling at the island is becoming yearly less and less, there has settled upon the inhabitants a hopelessness of fighting against circumstances which is most distressing. Before they fully realized that they must look to local industries and to the resources of the soil for the true prosperity of the island, the spirit of enterprise, and with it the necessary capital for developing those resources, had fled.

I append herewith a return showing the number and tonnage of vessels which have called at St. Helena during the last 10 years:—

—	No.	Tons.
1873 - - -	717	464,637
1874 - - -	684	469,231
1875 - - -	605	412,149
1876 - - -	582	393,761
1877 - - -	664	449,724
1878 - - -	669	505,750
1879 - - -	602	425,811
1880 - - -	564	430,925
1881 - - -	525	385,911
1882 - - -	497	409,400

From this return it will appear that the falling off in the number of ships calling at the island during the last 10 years is very considerable. As compared with 1873 there is a falling off of 220 in the number of ships which called in 1882, and a falling off of 55,237 as regards the tonnage. The gradually substitution of large steamers for sailing ships is another very serious blow to St. Helena. And again, although steamers continue to call they seldom require anything, as with the new improvements in ice-chambers and refrigerating machinery they can carry supplies of fresh meat and fresh vegetables to last a long voyage.

Under these circumstances the outlook in St. Helena is a very serious one.

Unless the Home Government is prepared to give the island some assistance and to support it while endeavouring to develop the resources of its soil I fear there is little hope in the future.

In the endeavour to keep the expenditure within the income, and to pay off a debt contracted some years ago, the present governor has been most careful in husbanding every penny paid into the exchequer, but in spite of his utmost endeavours the income is becoming less and less every year; public buildings, roads, and public works generally are suffering from want of funds; the establishment, reduced to its lowest standard, is small, ill-paid, and sharing in the general depression; education, religion, local institutions, and in fact all that make up the moral, social, and commercial machinery of a community are suffering from want of means, and are yearly less and less able to meet the demands made upon them.

I feel it my duty to speak thus plainly of the present state of affairs in St. Helena, as I trust that some means may be devised for bringing about a radical and decisive change in them.

Speaking from my point of view, and after a careful consideration of the soil, climate, and general resources of the island, I am led to take a hopeful view of those resources provided they are developed in such a manner as to place the island in fair competition with other countries.

I look entirely to the soil for the elements necessary to bring prosperity to St. Helena. But the people require to be shown what those resources are; they need to be taught how to use those resources aright, and they require to be encouraged and assisted, while so engaged.

I would recommend, in the first instance, that an intelligent and competent gardener be sent to the island to take up the entire question of the revival of agricultural pursuits, and that if the local government is unable to support such an officer and a small staff, that a grant be made for the purpose by the home government.

With regard to suggestions for the improvement of the general agriculture of the island, I shall, in treating of the plants now under cultivation there, offer such hints as may be conducive to

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Taking into account the remoteness and comparative isolation of the island, the reduced condition and great want of knowledge which characterises most of the cultural operations undertaken by the smaller settlers, as well as the need of the assistance which only a practical and well trained gardener can give them, I am disposed to recommend that a small establishment be again organized with Plantation House as a centre, and that a good gardener be placed in charge of it. The work of such a man would combine the maintenance of nurseries and of a small garden at Plantation House with a keen interest in the general development of all cultivation undertaken in the island. He would introduce and raise for distribution the numerous valuable plants not already in the island; he would show experimentally the best methods adopted for their successful cultivation, and he would give every assistance to cultivators in teaching them how to prepare the land and plant trees; how to prune them and keep them in good health; how to treat the numerous diseases which unhappily have appeared and been allowed to attack unchecked the numerous industrial plants in the island; how to prepare the produce of plants for exportation; and, in short, to promote by every means in his power the revival of cultural operations in St. Helena and to endeavour to place them in a healthy and prosperous condition.

Under present circumstances I am unable to suggest any other means of accomplishing the objects above enumerated, and I fear that even with these means it will take a long time to bring things back to such a condition as will have an appreciable effect upon the finances of the island.

The probable yearly expenditure in connexion with the employment of a trained gardener will amount to about 400*l.* per annum. This would include his own salary and the wages of three or four men. There is a small cottage at Plantation House which might be converted into a residence for the gardener, and there is a propagating house and land suitable for nurseries close at hand.

At first little, if any, reimbursement in aid could be expected. Later, however, as plants became ready for distribution, and a keener interest was created in the cultivation of new products, a small charge made for plants sold to cultivators might bring in about 50*l.* per annum. Ultimately the wages of the men might be covered by the sales of plants; but in any case the establishment could not be expected to be self-supporting amongst so small and comparatively speaking so poor a community.*

In addition to the work above mentioned the Government gardener might do much towards placing the Crown lands in a

* At present there is a small sum expended in the maintenance of a small garden in Jamestown which might be added to the above for working them under one officer.

position to bring in a larger revenue, and to assist in the planting of the large areas of denuded land which at present are becoming less productive every year.

It was noticed more than a hundred years ago that the excessive cutting down of the indigenous forest had had an appreciable effect upon the climate of the island; and especially that the springs rising in the highlands of the central ridge had become gradually diminished in volume and regularity. Oaks and Scotch firs were introduced in 1749, and planted at an elevation of about 2,000 feet, where they are growing luxuriantly to this day. Numerous acacias, and notably the Port Jackson willow, many Cape trees and Australian shrubs, have been established, and form the chief vegetation at a mid-elevation.

Since the time of the East India Company the lands above 2,000 feet have been gradually denuded, so that at the present time only inaccessible peaks and steep, precipitous, and rocky slopes, unsuitable for pasturage or for cultivation, remain in natural forest.

At about 2,000 feet, and down to about 1,500 feet, there is a belt, fairly well maintained, of Australian and Cape trees; but as the tendency of these is to propagate themselves at lower elevations or down the slope of the hills the upper areas remain untouched.

The lands on the higher slopes, inasmuch as they afford good hay grass are eagerly sought by farmers, and hence the tendency is to extend as much as possible the area under hay grass, and to cut down in every possible locality the indigenous trees.

I would suggest that a boundary be marked from the top of the central ridge, extending, say, 500 yards down the slope to the northward, and this should be permanently maintained in forest; and where at present denuded, that it be carefully and systematically replanted.

This belt might begin at the Old Picquet House, the eastern termination of the central ridge, and extend to the westward, under High Peak, Old Telegraph, Sandy Bay Ridge, Stitches Ridge, the Three Peaks, to High Ridge and Long Ground Ridge. The high road running under the northern slope of the central ridge might form a convenient boundary for this belt; but in cases where it comes close to the ridge, as at Telegraph and Sandy Bay Ridge, the boundary might fall below the road.

Latterly the island has suffered very severely from drought, numerous springs having been almost dried up. It is probable that such conditions may be repeated, if the process of denudation is not immediately stopped, and, if the central ridge, where the chief streams of the island take their rise, is not reclothed with trees. The beds of the streams should also be well shaded by suitable trees to prevent excessive evaporation, and all ponds and reservoirs should be similarly treated.

It is needless to add that blue gums, or any member of the genus *Eucalyptus*, is very unsuitable to plant near springs and streams. These trees act practically as force pumps; and several instances have come under my notice where springs and small

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rivulets have been dried up by the wonderful powers of absorption possessed by their roots.

As the best and most economical means of reforesting the denuded slopes of the island would be to utilise the numerous native and foreign trees already yielding large quantities of seed, I append here a list of the principal trees which may be used for such purposes :—

Common Name.	Scientific Name.	Elevation suitable for Growth.
Kei Apple	Aberia Caffra, HOOK. f. & HARV.	Mid.
Mahoe	Paritium tiliaceum, St. HIL.	Lower.
Redwood	Melhania erythroxylon, AIT.	Mid.
Margosa	Melia Azedarach, L.	Lower.
Caffre or Red Date	Harpephyllum caffrum, BERNH.	Mid.
Tree Pittosporum	Pittosporum undulatum, VENT.	,,
Cape Coral Tree	Erythrina caffra, THUNB.	,,
Red Coral Tree	,, Corallodendron, L.	Lower.
Coral Tree	Schotia tamarindifolia, AFZ.	Mid.
Fine-leaved Acacia	Acacia dealbata, LINK.	,,
Acacia	,, decurrens, WILLD.	,,
Port Jackson Willow	,, longifolia, WILLD.	,,
Black Acacia	Albizzia Lebbek, BTH.	Lower.
Black Boy	,, lophantha, BTH.	Mid.
Madras Thorn	Pithecolobium dulce, MART.	Lower
Loquat	Eriobotrya japonica, LINDL.	Mid.
Rose Apple	Eugenia Jambos, L.	,,
Red Gum	Eucalyptus viminalis, LAB.	,,
Blue Gum	,, Globulus, LAB.	,,
Indian Almond	Terminalia Catappa, GÆRTN.	Lower.
Assegai Wood	Curtisia faginea, AIT.	Mid.
Privet or Iron Wood	Canthium sp.	Mid. and Highest.
Purple-fruited Olive	Olea laurifolia, LAMK.	Mid.
White or Wild Olive	Nesiota elliptica, HOOK. F.	,,
True Olive	Olea europæa, L.	,,
Snail Tree	Hakea gibbosa, CAV.	,,
Oak	Quercus Robur, L.	,,
Evergreen Oak	,, Ilex, L.	,,
Cork Oak	,, Suber, L.	,,
Casuarina	Casuarina equisetifolia	,,
Norfolk Island Pine	Araucaria excelsa, R. BR.	,,
Brazil Pine	,, brasiliensis, RICH.	,,
Cypress	Cupressus sempervirens, L.	,,
China Pine	Cunninghamia sinensis, RICH.	,,
Bermuda Cedar	Juniperus bermudiana, L.	,,
Cluster Pine	Pinus Pinaster, AIT.	,,
Stone Pine	,, Pinea, L.	,,
Cape Yew	Podocarpus elongata, L'HER.	,,
Camphor	Cinnamomum Camphora, NEES.	,,

It will be noticed that most of the trees mentioned above are suitable for mid-elevations, these being the areas which, at the time of their introduction, required to be replanted. Since then, however, large areas on the highest lands have been cleared of their indigenous plants, and for these it might be desirable to introduce trees of a hardy character and capable of withstanding strong winds. Also in the hot and dry valleys of Jamestown and

Ruperts several valuable trees might be planted, suitable for the conditions which obtain therein.

For the latter situations, the Divi-divi (*Cæsalpinia coriaria*); the Lignum-vitæ (*Guaiacum officinale*); the Cashaw (*Prosopis juliflora*); the West Indian Ebony (*Brya Ebenus*), and various species of *Ficus* might be planted to afford shade and shelter, as well as give some returns in economic productions.

Cinchona.—The proposal to introduce the cultivation of Cinchona into St. Helena appears to have been made, in the first instance, by the late Dr. Roxburgh, who, as far back as 1814, recommended that seeds of *Cinchona officinalis* be obtained from South America, and that after plants had been established at St. Helena they should be transmitted to India.

Sir Joseph Hooker, having on two occasions, namely, in 1839 and 1843, had favourable opportunities of forming an opinion respecting the resources and climate of St. Helena, when Sir Charles Elliott in 1864 began to develop planting operations in the island by the introduction of new and valuable plants, it occurred to him that *Cinchona*, if properly tried, was likely to lay the foundations of a remunerative and successful industry.

To undertake experiments a skilled gardener Mr. J. H. Chalmers was sent out from Kew in 1869, who, having been supplied with seeds, succeeded within a short period in raising several thousand Cinchona plants in nurseries at Plantation House. Soon after a nursery was established at Newfoundland (altitude 2,400 feet), in the immediate neighbourhood of the highest peaks and of the only uncleared natural forest remaining in the island.

Mr. Chalmers succeeded altogether in raising about 10,000 plants from seed; and of these possibly more than one half were planted out either on the slope above Newfoundland and under Actæon's Peak; or, on the Peak itself.

This portion of the island it may be explained lies along the inclines of the central ridge, of which Actæon's Peak, Diana's Peak, and Cuckold's Pit Peak form the culminating points. The general elevation is between 2,500 and 2,700 feet; the mean annual temperature rather below 60° Fah.; and the soil composed of a rich black vegetable mould—peat—overlying marl or decomposed volcanic rock. At this elevation the ridge is bathed in moisture for at least three days of every week; and thus favoured, as pointed out by Sir Charles Elliott, it has become covered with a luxuriant growth of ferns and other plants usually found in the home of Cinchonas in South America.

The prospect for Cinchona at first was full of promise; and indeed if the cultivation had been attempted at an earlier period when there was a larger area of indigenous forest to select from and when plantations might have been established on the northern and more sheltered slopes of the central range the results might have been very different.

As it was, the plants put out on the terraces at the foot of Actæon's Peak began to die off, and, driven to a last resort, the

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cultivation was ultimately confined to the narrow ridges of Actæon's and Diana's Peak, which, in many places, are only a few feet wide and fully exposed to the strong trade winds which usually blow in St. Helena for about 9 or 10 months in the year. Here the soil on the surface was of a promising character, being composed of rich vegetable humus formed by the decayed leaves and stems of tree-ferns and native plants. Below, however, there was nothing but a cold, wet, indurated or slightly friable marl, very unsuitable for the growth of Cinchonas, and which in Ceylon and India is known by experience to develop rot or canker in the roots, and to destroy every plant in contact with it. In his last report on the subject, dated 12th December 1871, Mr. Chalmers rightly attributes the large per-centage of losses amongst his plants to the superficial nature of the soil, and reports that "they invariably died soonest in shallow ground, "and, on the contrary, lived longest where the soil was of "greatest depth." Further, he remarks, "there is nothing, "either in the climate or situation, of an unsuitable character; "the soil alone seems to be at fault, being insufficient for the "further development of the plants."

Out of about 5,000 plants put out by Mr. Chalmers between January 1869 and November 1871, at the latter date there were only 540 of all ages then remaining. These were as follows:—

Cinchona succirubra, over	2	feet	-	221
„ „	6	„	-	84
Cinchona officinalis „	2	„	-	81
„ „	6	„	-	3
Number of both kinds under	2	feet	-	151
Total			-	540

Further experimental trial was stopped by the reduction of the establishments effected by the late Admiral Patey, and Mr. Chalmers left the island.

From 1872 up to the date of my visit the Cinchona trees still living had received some attention, but practically their cultivation was abandoned.

I went up to the central ridge with the Governor and Colonel Phillips, R.E., on the 31st July, and spent the day examining the soil and noticing the condition and state of the Cinchona trees still remaining.

Of the trees planted by Mr. Chalmers there were 40 fine trees of *C. officinalis*, from 8 to 20 feet high; of *C. succirubra* there were 116 trees, from 8 to 20 feet high. The largest tree of all was a red-bark tree, *C. succirubra*, which measured 18 inches in circumference at 1 foot from the base. Except a few trees in exceptionally sheltered spots, they were all much damaged by wind, and presented a stunted and half-starved condition.

The ridge on which they were growing formed a portion of the rim of the old volcanic crater of Sandy Bay. On the southern side there was a steep, almost perpendicular, wall of rock, about

100 to 250 feet deep, reaching down to broken lands and ravines clothed with ferns, briars, and the low, bushy growths of cabbage trees, jelico, wild olive, and lobelia. On the northern and western sides the slopes, in places, were somewhat easier, but in no place was the ridge more than about 20 feet or 30 feet across. In many places, indeed, it was so narrow that it appeared like an old castle wall, clothed with vegetation.

The length of the ridge on which Cinchona had been attempted was altogether under $\frac{1}{4}$ mile in a direct line.

Under the most favourable circumstances it was not possible to place more than about five or seven acres under cultivation in Cinchona; but in view of the very unsuitable nature of the subsoil and the large mortality which had taken place amongst the young plants, it is very undesirable to attempt any further experiments. According to the statement of a very intelligent native gardener, trained by Mr. Chalmers, who has been employed since at Plantation House and in occasionally looking after the Cinchona plants on the ridge, more than 90 per cent. of the plants put out were lost owing to the unsuitable nature of the soil.

I visited the ridge again on the 1st August, and spent the day in exploring the lands in the immediate neighbourhood of the peaks, with the view of finding land offering better facilities for Cinchona planting than the ridge itself. In this I was disappointed. Except on the crest of the ridge there is no vegetable deposit or surface soil likely to grow Cinchona, the soil elsewhere being very shallow and immediately overlying rock or cold impervious clay.

Summing up the results of my inquiry, I am of opinion that, while the first impressions were favourable to the possibility of growing Cinchona on the highest peaks in St. Helena, the character of the subsoil, together with the exposed position of the locality, would entirely preclude the undertaking being commercially a success; and on other grounds it would be very undesirable to cut down any more of the indigenous forest, which already is reduced to such a small extent (*see* map).

With regard to the cultivation of other plants, I devoted as much of my time as possible to a careful review of the capabilities of the island, and append herewith the remarks I have to offer.

The plant known in the island as the English aloe (*Furcræa gigantea*) offers a very important means of establishing an industry by its extended cultivation, and the preparation of the valuable fibre which its leaves contain. This plant grows wild at mid-elevations, and its tall flowering stem, rising to the height of 30 feet or more, is quite a feature in the landscape. The leaves are often 8 or 10 feet in length; when freshly cut they possess a peculiar penetrating odour, from which the old name *Agave fœtida* was derived. On the flowering stem, instead of flowers, there generally appears a numerous progeny of bulbils; these enable the plant to be very readily propagated. This *Furcræa*, which appears to have spread naturally on the low-lying lands and

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deserted sugar estates in Mauritius, has been utilized in that island for the production of a valuable fibre known in commerce as Mauritius hemp. A machine invented by M. Gracieux was found to extract the fibre from the *Furcræa* leaves successfully, and a large business, amounted to an annual export value of 15,000*l.*, has consequently been established there.

Another machine, known as Smith's Patent Scutching Machine, manufactured by Messrs. Death and Ellwood of Leicester, is being used for the extraction of this fibre, and with favourable results.

Those who contemplate embarking in this industry in St. Helena should, in the first place, obtain one of the machines above mentioned, and test its suitableness for the extraction of the fibre on the spot. The motive power might be obtained from horse-power, water-wheel, or windmill. For the circumstances of St. Helena the latter would probably be the most preferable. In the first place, the present supply of the *Furcræa* might be utilised; but sooner or later it would be necessary to establish regular plantations, in the immediate neighbourhood of works, and with proper appliances for the rapid transport of the leaves.

It must be remembered that the proportion of fibre in each leaf is very small. It is generally admitted that the leaves of this plant give an average yield of about 3 per cent.; that is to say, not three pounds of fibre for 100 pounds of leaves, but three pounds of fibre for 100 leaves. By actual experiment in Mauritius 50 leaves of average size, 4 feet long, weighing in the aggregate 56 pounds, produced 1·75 pounds of dry fibre. This would be at the rate of 3½ pounds of fibre per 100 leaves, or 3·12 pounds per 100 pounds.

A consideration of the above facts should lead to every effort being made to reduce the cost of transport of the leaves and to establishing works in a central position, easily accessible on all sides.

While in the island I received samples of fibre prepared by Mr. Deason of Longwood Farm, by means of a machine of his own invention, driven by windmill power. On arrival in England I was enabled, through the kind offices of Mr. Thomas Christy, F.L.S., to submit them for report to Messrs. Collyer & Co., Fenchurch Street, London.

The result is as follows:—

"Aloe fibre (*Furcræa gigantea*) St. Helena. Good length: full strength: rather dull colour: generally well cleaned, but with some runners untouched and barky. Value, 28*l.* to 30*l.* per ton. This sample is very different in appearance to the *Furcræa gigantea* of Mauritius, owing probably to differences both of growth and treatment. It is in some respects apparently more suitable for cordage purposes; that is, more like Manilla hemp."

Considering that this fibre was prepared by simply passing it once through the machine, that no water was used, and that it was dried by simply exposing it to the sun, the report is full of encouragement and very suggestive. Owing to the limited supply

of water in the island it would be useless to attempt to wash the fibre, or indeed to do anything to it beyond drying it in the sun and beating some of the pithy substance out of it before it is packed for shipment.

To sum up my recommendations under this head, the chief points to which attention should be given :—

1. To grow large quantities of the plants and utilise all waste lands so as to produce leaves cheaply and economically.

2. To use simple and effective machines, the Gracieux or the Mauritius machine for preference, cheaply worked in the immediate neighbourhood of the plants.

3. To dry the fibre by exposure to the sun and air, and ship it in a perfectly dry condition.

New Zealand Flax.—New Zealand flax (*Phormium tenax*) has been extensively planted over the island, and in some cases it occupies good and valuable soil. Some time ago an attempt was made to establish a factory for the preparation of the valuable fibre yielded by this plant; and many people were thus tempted to cultivate it. As the factory with expensive machinery was established at Jamestown, several miles away from where the plants were grown, the expense of transport—chiefly by means of the small breed of island donkeys—was so great as to swallow up all the profits.

This cannot be a matter of surprise when it is remembered that it would take more than 100 tons of leaves, and these carried in small loads, to yield about five tons of fibre.

If another attempt is made to extract fibre from the New Zealand flax, the machinery should be placed quite close to the plants; and it might be more profitable in the end to ship a lower class of fibre than attempt to work expensive machines requiring a large water supply.

I am encouraged in this view by the report of Messrs. Collyer & Co., the brokers who examined the *Furcræa* fibre, on a sample of New Zealand flax, roughly prepared by Mr. Deason's machine. This was passed through the machine in the same manner as the *Furcræa* leaves, and submitted without washing or the use of chemicals. Messrs. Collyer's Report is as follows :—

"New Zealand flax (*Phormium tenax*) St. Helena.

"Fair length: fair strength: poor brownish colour: fairly clean: some runners untouched and barky. Value, 22*l.* to 23*l.* per ton.

"Either this fibre, or that of the aloe (*Furcræa gigantea*) would be fairly saleable in large quantities."

If Mr. Deason's machine does not fully answer for the New Zealand flax, possibly the machines manufactured by Messrs. Death and Ellwood would do so. A single machine of their pattern may be had for about 37*l.* 10*s.*, and they are fitted with special appliances, so that they can be driven either by cattle or horses or by windmill power.

I commend the subject of the extraction of fibre from the New Zealand flax to the careful attention of proprietors in the island;

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and failing remunerative prices for the fibre, there is still an opening in shipping "half-stuff" for the paper manufacturers, and obtaining some return from the hundreds of tons of this material now growing uselessly on such extensive tracts in the island.

Barbadoes Aloes.—Another member of the aloe family, which is very abundant in the island, and capable of being largely utilised, is the Barbadoes aloe (*Aloe vulgaris*).

It grows freely in Jamestown Valley in volcanic ash, and on barren rocks. It is fast spreading also in Rupert's Valley; and I noticed it was there used, and seemed to florish, as a coping for a stone wall.

This plant, so hardy and prolific, produces the aloes of medicine, and it is cultivated, especially at Barbadoes in the West Indies, solely for this purpose.

It reproduces itself by means of suckers around the stem; these being removed when about 6 inches high are planted out on waste pieces of land about 2 feet apart. When fully grown, and just before flowering, the outer and older leaves are first removed; they contain an abundance of a thick yellowish juice, which is allowed to drain into troughs leading into a large iron pot or cauldron. When the pot is nearly filled it is placed over a fire, and the juice boiled until it has attained the consistency of thick glue; this when cool is the aloes of commerce, and it is usually exported to England in bottles or gourds.

Barbadoes aloes, prepared in the manner above indicated, is valued in the London market at 4*l.* to 8*l.* per cwt. It is usually retailed by druggists at 4*s.* 6*d.* per pound.

This industry, which necessarily must be very small, might commend itself to the notice of many people, especially fishermen and others, living in the lower valleys. The plant is abundant; its cultivation, if merely putting a few suckers in the ground can be so called, is of the simplest description; and the preparation of the juice requires only a few troughs, made by nailing a couple of pieces of board at right angles to each other, and an iron pot. If some local tradesmen were to give attention to the subject, and undertake to purchase the manufactured aloes from the cultivators in small quantities, the industry would soon be placed upon a satisfactory footing.

Walking Sticks, &c.—I noticed in many parts of the island that a considerable quantity of low brushwood, composed of privet (*Canthium* sp.), as well as numerous hedgerows of wild pepper (*Cluytia pulchella*), were spreading by means of root suckers over large areas. Also the European gorse or furze bush (*Ulex europæus*), a naturalised plant in St. Helena, covered many acres of the somewhat barren slopes at mid-elevation. It occurred to me that possibly a small trade might be made in sending selected specimens of these to England for walking sticks, umbrella handles, &c.

With the view of testing the demand for such articles I brought with me a bundle of sticks, representative of the three plants

above mentioned; and I had them submitted (through the Kew Museum) for examination by one of the largest firms in London interested in the subject.

The report which I received is as follows:—

REPORT by Messrs. H. Howell & Co., of 180, Old Street, City Road, London, upon sticks from St. Helena, collected by Mr. D. Morris.

24th September 1883.

"We have given attention to the specimens of sticks from St. Helena which you kindly sent for our inspection, and the result is that we find it difficult to speak as to their commercial value from such a *small sample*, as from a long experience we find that the larger the sample in sticks the more nearly it is likely to represent the bulk.

"Each of the specimens, however, have characteristics which we like, and if you could get over a large sample, say 500 or 1,000 each, or even say, 200 each, we could then estimate their probable value in the market.

"The wild pepper should be sent over *without having* the root peeled. We prefer the roots left as large and natural as possible, so that we can use our discretion in shaping the handles. This remark applies equally to the privet.

"If the furze, too, can be cut with a knob or crook of some sort it will increase their value.

"These sticks, viz., the *two each* sent us, are all very fairly selected; that is, they are good sizes, and they taper nicely from the root to the point. Moreover, they are free from *knees* or *acute* angles, which always, when present, depreciate the value of sticks.

"The diameter of sticks such as these can vary from ½ inch to about 1 inch (yours measure ½ to ¾)."

HENRY HOWELL & Co.

Pyrolusite.—Pyrolusite, or black oxide of manganese, is occasionally found in veins amongst the finely crystalline felspathic greystone lavas at Horse point; and, I believe, at one time an attempt was made to export it to Europe. The price obtained did not, however, encourage the hope of making it a permanent industry. The ore is of a particularly hard description, and difficult to separate from the clay beds in which it occurs. More than this, the cost of transport is so great that until some means can be obtained to ship it on the spot there is little hope of placing it in the market, so as to compete with supplies from other countries. [*See* Appendix I.]

Clays.—The numerous clays, ranging from bright red to pure white, found at the higher elevations, as they all contain iron, would be quite unfit or potter's purposes.

Coffee.—Coffee is grown in small patches varying from one fourth of an acre to two or three acres. At Plantation House, Terrace Knoll, Bambu roove, Ellits, Prospect, and Oaklands I saw very fine patches of coffee, somewhat neglected and

unpruned it is true, but indicating the capabilities of the island to grow, in sheltered hollows, a fair quantity of very good coffee. The extent of land actually suitable for coffee would, however, be so small that I do not anticipate it will, under any circumstances, be produced in sufficient quantity for exportation. If it would supply local demands it would do a great deal.

It would appear that a large amount of foreign coffee is imported to the island, the returns for the last 10 years being as follows:–

Year.	Quantity (Bags).	Value.
		£
1873	63	311
1874	74	433
1875	91	431
1876	37	171
1877	93	473
1878	76	222
1879	60	251
1880	82	348
1881	62	237
1882	31	121
Total	669 bags.	2,998

For the improvement of this industry, which is in a very languishing condition, induced no doubt by the smallness of the individual areas and the inability to give proper scientific treatment to the trees, I have little of practical utility to offer. There should, however, be no difficulty in digging the ground around the trees, and applying, occasionally, a good dressing of manure to them. Also the pruning which the trees require is a simple matter in itself but it requires skill and intelligence above the average of that found amongst the small settlers.

The chief hope is, that if an intelligent gardener is appointed to take charge of the Crown lands and teach the people the elementary principles of cultivation, coffee will be included amongst the first objects to receive special attention.

Tobacco.—No tobacco is, at present, grown and prepared in the island. During the last 10 years 84,570 lbs. of tobacco were imported representing an aggregate value of 5,272*l.*

In 1869, at the suggestion of Sir Joseph Hooker, Sir Charles Elliott thought it desirable to encourage the cultivation of tobacco, if not for exportation, at least to supply ordinary demands in the island.

A small plantation was accordingly started by Mr. Chalmers, who gives the following account, in his report dated 12th December 1871, "the ground was manured and the plants otherwise well attended to till they had arrived at that state of maturity at which it is customary to 'cure' or prepare the leaf for use. They were then carefully treated after the manner usually practised in tobacco growing countries. A

"sample was prepared and submitted through Sir Joseph "Hooker to the test of a proficient London tobacconist, who "reported upon it to the effect that it was deficient in flavour "and burning properties, and bore evidence of having been "grown on a very poor soil. Some of the leaves were, how-"ever, of fair quality, and he believed that by increased attention "to the manuring of the soil, and the preparation of the leaf, "St. Helena tobacco should become equal in quality to that of "Natal and other tobacco growing countries."

The results of this experiment are exactly what might have been expected under the circumstances, and so far from discouraging the industry they afford very hopeful grounds for its ultimate success. There is no doubt that if Mr. Chalmers had remained in the island and carried on further experiments, tobacco culture would now have become an established industry. For good returns on a small acreage tobacco growing is the most profitable of any. The chief points to be attended to are the selection of soil, and its thorough trenching and working, so as to reduce it to the finest powder. The soil should be a fine, somewhat sandy, rich loam, with no trace of clay or marl, and thoroughly well drained. No soil that I noticed in St. Helena is sufficiently rich at present to grow tobacco, and it would be useless to attempt to grow it where good facilities do not exist for heavily manuring the land. Where the soil possesses the characteristics mentioned above, a portion might be enclosed and cattle or sheep penned and fed upon it for several weeks. When the ground has become throughly saturated with animal deposits it should then be ploughed or trenched, and all the manure thoroughly mixed with the soil.

Land so prepared would produce tobacco of the finest quality, and I trust that another attempt will be made to start an industry which possesses so many advantages for limited areas, and a small labour supply.

Forage plants.—As raising and feeding cattle is one of the principal industries in the island, the question of raising large quantities of forage is a matter of prime importance. At present owing to the poor quality of the pasture lands cattle require to be fed, especially in the winter months, with green forage, such as barley, oats, and Indian corn, supplemented by well cured hay made in the high lands. During periods of drought, such as those experienced during the last three or four years, several hundred cattle have died from want of proper nourishment; and at the time of my visit few, if any, island cattle were fit to be killed for food, the whole community being dependent on supplies from the Cape or the West Coast. Beef is usually retailed in Jamestown at 1*s.* 1*d.* to 1*s.* 3*d.* per pound.

The improvement of the grass lands and a larger and more abundant supply of forage appear to me to be the urgent wants of the island.

As regards the grass lands, they have all, for the most part, become impoverished by continued and ceaseless cropping and the entire absence of manuring.

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To improve them, the hundreds of tons of manure wasted in Jamestown should by some means be made available for the purpose; or, failing this, farmers should look upon a compost or manure heap, formed by all refuse and vegetable *débris* near and around farm buildings and cottages, as a necessity in order to enrich the lands in their neighbourhood and develop their resources. In some few cases where this is done the results are so patent that they should commend themselves to the serious attention of all in possession of pasture lands.

For green forage possibly barley, Cape oats, and maize or Indian corn are very suitable for the soil and climate, and yield large quantities of useful and nutritious forage. To supplement these I would recommend the introduction and cultivation of several varieties of Sorghum, usually called millet or guinea corn. In the south of Europe, in Asia Minor, and more recently in the United States of America, the cultivation of Sorghum occupies a place similar to that which oats and barley hold in the field-culture of the northern parts of Europe; and its extended culture in St. Helena would, I believe, be attended with very satisfactory results as a forage plant.

I was much struck by the almost entire neglect of the celebrated guinea grass (*Panicum jumentorum*) in St. Helena. Speaking of the importance of this grass in Jamaica (Report 1880, p. 23), I mentioned that "most of the grazing and breeding pens were "originally created and are still supported by means of this in-"valuable herbage, and perhaps the settlement of the north side "of the island is wholly due to the introduction of this excellent "grass. Again, it has rendered many rocky and otherwise barren "spots in Jamaica very valuable as affording support to herds of "cattle and horses."

To establish this grass in St. Helena the land should first be ploughed and manured. The grass-tufts taken from an older field should be planted about a foot or 18 inches apart each way and well fixed in the soil. If seeds are used they may be sown broad-cast, or in drills. A large field of guinea grass in a sheltered spot at mid-elevation would be more productive than almost any forage plant. To keep it in good order the grass should be cut not grazed, and the field should receive periodical hoeing and a plentiful supply of manure.

To guard against drought and times of scarcity of water it would be very desirable to introduce several valuable trees, yielding nutritious pods or fruits, which in many countries possessing dry and arid climates supply the chief food stock for cattle and horses.

Among the first of these I would place the Carob tree (*Ceratonia siliqua*), a native of the countries bordering the Mediterranean, where it is extensively cultivated for the sake of its pods. These contain a large quantity of agreeably flavoured mucilaginous and saccharine matter commonly employed for feeding horses, mules, pigs, &c., and occasionally, in times of scarcity, for human food.

The tree can resist great drought, as its long roots penetrate to a great depth in search of water. I found one small plant of this

tree at Oakbank; but as it is not likely to flower for many years it would be better to import large quantities of seed from the south of Europe, and establish the tree everywhere in the island below 1,200 or 1,500 feet.

Another useful tree of this class is the Rain tree (*Pithecolobium Saman*) of South America. Its pods, produced in large quantities, are greedily devoured by cattle, and for the lower lands and the valleys of Jamestown and Rupert's Valley it would prove a handsome shade and shelter tree, as well as a useful forage plant.

The Cashaw (*Prosopis juliflora*) is found invaluable in the West Indies in time of drought, and being a hardy tree and easily propagated it should be utilised largely in St. Helena. The pods of this tree possess the nutritious properties of the Carob, to which indeed it is nearly allied; but they require to be gathered soon after they have fallen, and kept in a dry place as, after they have begun to germinate, they are highly injurious to cattle.

St. Helena possesses three grasses which are peculiar to it, as I learn from Mr. Hemsley. They are: *Agrostis simulans*, Hemsl., *Eragrostis saxatilis*, Hemsl., *Demazeria oblitera*, Hemsl. The former was abundant in pastures in the interior of the island, and was also collected by Sir Joseph Hooker and Mr. Melliss; the other two are probably unimportant as forage grasses.

These are the only native grasses in St. Helena, if we except the doubtful existence at the earliest times of the Bahama or Bermuda grass (*Cynodon Dactylon*). The paucity of species would probably be due to the fact that at one time the island was covered with thick forest with no open spaces suitable for grass. Be that as it may be, it is evident that it is very desirable to supplement the present forage resources of the island; and this can only be done by a more scientific and generous treatment of the grasses now in the island, and the introduction of the valuable trees mentioned above.

Oranges, Limes, Citrons, and Lemons.—Of this class of fruits St. Helena is practically destitute. It is true that a few orange trees grow in Jamestown; and, occasionally, a few limes and lemons are produced in Rupert's Valley. But any of these fruits produced in the island are looked upon as local curiosities, and as much as a shilling each is asked for them.

Mr. Melliss, speaking of the lemon, remarks:—"Formerly the "island was quite a lemon garden, producing fruit in perfection, "but now visitors and mariners after long sea voyages look for "them in vain. The trees growing old, their roots penetrated "through the upper soil to the rock, and no new ones were "planted, so that about 10 years ago lemons became a scarce "article. The tree once grew plentifully in such places as Lemon "Valley, Lemon Tree Gut, &c., where now scarcely a vestige of "one is to be seen."

Speaking of the lime, Mr. Melliss relates the same story, and adds:—"The lime, once so abundant, suffered the same fate as "the lemon, and I doubt if a lime can now be obtained in the "island."

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The sweet orange fruits fairly well, but the number of trees is so small that practically the fruit is little known, except as imported from other countries.

The shaddock or pumelow is found in one or two gardens, and appears to produce fine fruit. The citron is represented by one solitary tree in Rupert's Valley.

Most of the Citrus tribe are severely attacked by an *Aphis*, with the subsequent visitation of a *Capnodium* or sooty blight, similar to that which so ruinously attacked the orange trees at Madeira and the Canary Islands. There is also another enemy, possibly a small fly, which produces a knotted, crumpled appearance of the leaves, often attacking the entire foliage of a large tree.

These insect and fungoid blights are no doubt the cause of much of the failure of orange and lemon trees in St. Helena, but they are evidently not answerable for the whole of it. In former times great care was taken with the trees, and they were established under conditions very different to the present. As the old trees died no fresh ones were planted; or, if they were planted, they were not properly supplied with large, deep holes, free from stone and rubble, or with the necessary manure and good dressing.

I believe with proper precautions and management all the members of the Citrus tribe could be grown to a much larger extent than at present. The blights could be kept in check, and if the trees had only a tithe of the manure, wasted in their immediate neighbourhood in Jamestown they would soon bear abundant crops.

Under this head, as well as in the culture of the finer vegetables, great assistance might be rendered by a well-trained practical gardener accustomed to the management of tropical plants. A large supply of grafted plants of all kinds requires to be placed within reach of the people, and they also require to be shown experimentally the results of scientific and careful culture.

Grape Vine.—Owing to the introduction of an insect from the Cape during the last 10 years the grape vines in St. Helena have been almost entirely destroyed. The exact nature and habits of the insect should be investigated, and specimens should be sent to England for the purpose. On all sides I heard lamentations over the loss of grape vines which had grown splendid grapes for nearly half a century. To resuscitate vine culture fresh kinds, and especially hardy American vines, should be introduced. It is quite possible that the worse attacks of the grape insect are over, and under these circumstances the culture might be resumed.

The Peaches have suffered equally with the grape vine from the ravages of insects during the last few years; and at present the fruit, once so common, is becoming rather rare. The apricot is present, but does not bear.

The Loquat is a plentiful and highly esteemed fruit.

The Date Palm grows well and bears abundantly in James-

town Valley. One kind, called Bussorah date, without a hard kernel, is particularly good.

Of other fruits produced in the island there are guavas, the common red and pear-shaped; the mango, a few trees only; the tamarind, two or three trees of an inferior kind; the rose-apple, a few trees; the pomegranate, plentiful and good; the granadilla and sweet-cup, rare; the papaw, a few plants only; the fig, fairly common; the mulberry, common; the avocado pear, rare; the Cape gooseberry, common; the raspberry and blackberry, common; the cherimoyer, a fine and delicious fruit, rather common; the strawberry, rare; the Otaheite gooseberry (*Cicca disticha*), rare; the Chinese gooseberry (*Averrhoa Carambola*), rare; Kei apple (*Aberia Caffra*), somewhat common; the country walnut (*Aleurites triloba*), rare; the prickly pear, abundant; the Indian almond (*Terminalia Catappa*), common; the sea-side grape (*Coccoloba uvifera*), rare; and the Barbadoes gooseberry (*Pereskia Bleo*), rare.

Pineapples.—It would appear that pineapples, the finest of tropical fruits, are only moderately successful in St. Helena. They are probably cultivated at too great an elevation, and in soil of too clayey a character.

Pineapples prefer a fine, light, sandy soil, thoroughly well drained. No animal manure should be applied to them, but the rich, black earth from the forest, or what is known in England as fibrous loam, is the best dressing for them.

New varieties should be introduced to the island; and, with proper treatment, the Jamestown Valley might raise pineapples of the finest kinds.

I append here some remarks on pineapples, from one of my reports:—

'The soil should be a fine gravelly loam, free from clay, and perfectly drained. The plants, consisting of suckers from older plants, may be put out at about 3½ feet apart, care being taken to keep them free from weeds, and give the land, in dry weather, a dressing of decayed leaf-mould or rotten turf; animal manure, unless very old and, in fact, reduced to black earth, is not suitable for pineapples, and should be carefully avoided.

"In rather moist lands pines may be planted in ridges with drains between, but in hot, dry soils, after a preparatory trenching of the whole surface, pines may be planted on level land.

"The best kinds to cultivate for export are the Black Antigua, Black Jamaica or Cow-boy, Ripley, Charlotte Rothschild, Smooth Cayenne, Scarlet or Cuban Pine, and British Queen."

Tea.—There are one or two tea plants in the island, but they are so poor and miserable that, judging from their age and appearance, tea is not likely to be successfully cultivated in St. Helena.

Roccella tinctoria.—This lichen or dye-weed, known as orchella weed or orchil, is very common on the exposed rocks of High Knoll, Ladder Hill, Rupert's Hill, and Sugar Loaf. It is an article of commerce in Ceylon and India, and much esteemed in England as affording a fine blue or purplish dye. If on investiga-

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tion it is abundant in other parts of the island, it might be usefully collected and form an article of export.

Vanilla.—This valuable spice plant is being tried on a small scale, but the results so far are not satisfactory, owing chiefly to a want of knowledge of the requirements of the plant, and the proper methods for artificially fertilizing the flowers. The plants require warm *and well sheltered situations*, very moist, rich soil, and plenty of shade.

Vanilla is a valuable spice, which in some countries, as in the Isle of Bourbon, where it has been successfully introduced and cultivated, forms a valuable article of export. Well-cured vanilla-pods fetch as much as 30*s.* per pound. The following directions for establishing vanilla from cuttings, and curing the pods, have been lately published by the Botanical Department, Jamaica, and I quote them as applicable in every respect to the circumstances of St. Helena.

"*Vanilla.*—This is a vigorous soft-stemmed plant, the cured fruits of which are the valuable vanilla beans of commerce. If cuttings are taken, their upper end or the portion to appear above ground may be readily determined by examination of the base of the attached leaf, in the axil or upper face of which is a small growth bud.

"Cut the stem with, say, three or four joints, at one fourth of an inch below the basal node or joint, then place the base of each cutting shallowly in prepared soil, against the bole or trunk of a rough-barked, low branching tree, as, for instance, calabash; or on a low-trellised frame 3 to 4 feet high, the supports of which should be unbarked logwood, yoke or calabash.

"If the insect which fertilises the flowers of this orchid, in its natural habitat, is not present, in order to secure a crop of fruit it is necessary that the flowers should be artificially fertilised. This may be easily accomplished as follows:

"In the flower is a central white column, at the summit of which is a detachable cap or anther, which if touched on the lower front edge with a sharpened pencil or knife blade will adhere to the implement. The pollen masses contained in the anther must then be made to lightly touch the viscous (sticky) disk situated on the front of the column. Each flower must be so treated at or about noon of the day on which it opens.

"To cure vanilla beans gather when full; steep for about two minutes in boiling water and place in flannel to dry in the sun. When perfectly dry place them next day on plates of iron or tin, anointing once or twice with sweet oil, to keep them soft and plump. Complete the curing process by exposing them carefully in the sun for several days. When quite cured they should have a uniformly rich brown colour, and the full fragrance of this valuable product."

Olives.—Fine trees of the true olive *Olea europæa* grow in the neighbourhood of the Briars (the residence of the Honourable George Moss), and at certain times they are loaded with fruit. Extensive areas at similar elevation might be placed under culti-

vation in olives which are admirably adapted to the circumstances of the island. The best varieties of olives are grafted, and if a few plants of the finest and largest Spanish olives were introduced grafts from these might be established on seedlings raised in the island. I have no doubt that green olives of fine quality might be grown in St. Helena, and from the present trees as they stand large quantities of oil might be prepared.

For further information respecting the cultivation I am indebted to Mr. W. T. Thiselton Dyer, C.M.G., for the following extract from an article on "The Vine and Olive in Siena," in the Journal of the Society of Arts for October 19, 1883, pp. 1005–6.

The olive is cultivated on the hills. In some places it is grown in plantations, and in others the trees are generally planted in rows along the fields, in combination with other cultures. The varieties most generally grown are the *correggiolo*, the *moraiolo* which ripens early, and the *olivastro*. The trees are grown from slips cut in the spring, which are planted in holes in ground that has been well broken up and covered with mould, and watered as required. The hardiest shoot is subsequently selected and may be permanently planted in three years. The olive is also raised from seed. In the districts of Siena, when a tree is about to be cut down, the *uovoli*, or eyes, on the roots are detached, and placed in a separate plot of ground, plants being obtained from them in three years, which can then be transplanted. In the wooded districts where the wild olive is plentiful, grafting is commonly employed. The trees are usually planted in holes or ditches of more than two yards square, and a yard deep, drained with a layer of stones. When the olives are planted in rows in the fields, they are generally pruned *a paneira*, nearly all the inner branches being cut away from the centre to enable air and light to penetrate freely. The trees are pruned every two or three years. The most careful cultivators apply a special manure when the trees are between five and eight years old, composed of straw mixed with woollen rags, the whole saturated and moistened with sewage, but this is not general, as the trees profit by the manure laid on the fields. It is estimated that in the Province of Siena, one acre of vines will produce 115 gallons of wine, and an acre of olives, 20 gallons of oil; the quantity of the former actually produced in 1882 amounting to 10,898,000 gallons, and of the latter 780,000 gallons.

Cork.—The cork oak grows so freely near Plantation, at Oakbank, Terrace Knoll, and other places that it may be said to be naturalised in the island. The bark, so far as I am aware, has never been utilised or its value tested in the English market. If the seed, produced so abundantly, were sown on waste banks and ridges, the timber at least would be very valuable, and an opportunity would be offered for placing the cork in the market for experimental trial.

Flower Cultivation for extracting Perfume. — The luxuriant manner in which many garden plants, such as *Gardenia* and others, flourish in the island has suggested the possibility of cultivating

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them for the sake of extracting their perfume. The difficulty hitherto has been to obtain a simple and inexpensive apparatus, by means of which the perfume can be extracted. From inquiries made, after my return to London, I believe, provided a sufficient quantity of flowers can be obtained, an apparatus designed and supplied by the firm of Eugene Rimmel would fully answer the purpose.

Arrowroot.—The cultivation of the arrowroot plant (*Maranta arundinacea*) should be largely undertaken, as it would flourish in most gardens with very little care or attention. Arrowroot is a pure nutritious starch obtained from the roots of the plants when about 12 months' old. The starch is extracted from the tubers, by reducing them to a pulp in water, straining, allowing the fecula or meal to subside, again washing it, and ultimately allowing it to dry.

Turmeric.—This is a medicinal and tinctorial substance obtained from the root of *Curcuma longa*, an East Indian plant belonging to the same family as ginger. The powdered root forms one of the ingredients in the preparation of Indian curry-stuff or curry powder, to which it imparts its yellowish hue. This plant might be cultivated under similar circumstances to arrowroot; and if not already in the island—a plant of it was supposed to be at Oak-bank, but I failed to find it—it might be obtained through the Royal Gardens, Kew.

Oil Plants.—Among the numerous class of oil plants for which the island is adapted mention might be made of the gingelly-oil plant (*Sesamum orientale*), which is already cultivated to a small extent among the settlers; pindar-nuts (*Arachis hypogœa*), a productive plant in light sandy soils; croton-oil tree (*Croton Tiglium*), a common East India plant; castor oil plant (*Ricinus communis*), already a common weed near cultivated areas; physic nut (*Jatropha Curcas*), which yields a valuable medicinal oil; the African oil-palm (*Elæis guineensis*); the butter tree (*Bassia butyracea*), a native of Bengal; and the horse-radish tree, or oil of Ben tree (*Moringa pterygosperma*), a very free-growing and hardy tree, common in the West Indies.

Bird Pepper, which is the source of the Cayenne pepper of commerce, should be cultivated in dry, hot neighbourhoods, especially in Jamestown and Rupert's Valley. It is a cultivation suitable for elderly people, and those unable to undertake much bodily fatigue; but if the pepper is prepared carefully and successfully there is a very fair demand for it at good prices.

Bananas.—This fine tropical fruit is grown to a small extent, but owing to the destructive influences of wind they do not bear so abundantly as they should. The small Chinese banana (*Musa Cavendishii*) is admirably adapted for cultivation in St. Helena, but with the exception of one or two plants it does not appear to have been largely tried. Being a small plant, seldom more than 5 to 6 feet high, it would grow well under shelter of a wall or side of a house; and under these circumstances it would be more satisfactory to grow than the taller kinds.

Plantains.—This highly esteemed vegetable rather than fruit appears to be absent in St. Helena. At least no plants came under my notice. As a food plant it stands high in most tropical countries, and is very easy of cultivation. Suckers might no doubt be obtained from the West Coast of Africa in large quantities. It would require shelter, and a moist and somewhat rich soil. The latter conditions are easily attained in Jamestown, at least, by means of irrigation.

Vegetables.—Of ordinary table vegetables there is a fair supply. Potatoes, cabbages of good quality, pumpkins in five or six varieties, onions, shallots, beans, peas, cucumbers, parsnips, carrots, beetroot, chillies, are all grown more or less, and flourish best in sheltered spots at mid-elevation.

What is called in St. Helena Yam (*Colocasia esculenta*), to be distinguished from the "Yam Flower" (*Richardia*), is only slightly cultivated, whereas the "Coast Yam" (*Dioscorea*) has almost entirely disappeared.

For the shipping, lettuce, radish, and water-cress appear to be receiving chief attention.

The Cassava plant (*Manihot utilissima*) is not present, although its cultivation might be attended with great success.

The Chiote or Chocho, the Pepinella of Maderia (*Sechium edule*), is a hardy vegetable, somewhat resembling the vegetable marrow, which should certainly be introduced to St. Helena. In the West Indies it is reckoned extremely wholesome, and is commonly used as an article of food by all classes. The plant is propagated by seed, and when once established becomes a hardy self-sown climber, bearing nearly all the year round a fruit larger than a pear covered with soft prickles. It is boiled (or parboiled and fried), and eaten as a vegetable.

I noticed that pumpkins, vegetable marrows, cucumbers, melons, and all plants of this class were severely attacked by a fungus (*Erysiphe*) which covered them with a whitish floury deposit as if they had been powdered over with lime dust. This or a very closely allied disease also attacks peas, cabbages, roses, and other plants. The best treatment for this disease is the application of flowers of sulphur dusted over the plants immediately it appears.

Where the disease has taken firm hold of plants in a garden, the better plan is to burn them at once, and so destroy the spores, which would otherwise remain in the land and attack the plants of the next season.

Pumpkins, vegetable marrows, and melons should never be planted in old garden soil. These plants require freshly broken ground away from other cultivation, but it is not necessary that the land should be very rich or heavily manured. It is said that too rich a soil has a tendency to produce a large proportion of male—and hence barren flowers.

A native vegetable much resembling celery is found growing wild on Diana's Peak, which formerly was sold and eagerly bought in the market at Jamestown. This is the Angelica (*Sium Helenium*,

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Hook. f.), a handsome umbelliferous plant, growing to the height of six or eight feet amongst the cabbage trees and ferns on the central ridge.

The inner portions of the stem, which is of a tender succulent character, may be eaten raw, and form an excellent substitute for celery. The native people eagerly eat it. As brought to market it is in short tubes, much like bamboo stems, and is sold under the name of jelico.

A plant growing in one of the economic houses at the Royal Gardens, Kew, shows that it might be easily cultivated if necessary.

Potatoes.—This is probably the staple production of the farmers and small cultivators in St. Helena, and if there were a convenient and abundant market, potato-raising might become the source of a considerable export trade.

Some time ago St. Helena potatoes were exported to the Cape and found great favour there. Owing, however, to the restrictions attending the introduction of the phylloxera, all vegetable produce, and even potatoes, are placed under a ban, so that the trade from St. Helena is hopelessly cut off. Potatoes are sold in fair quantities to the shipping and to supply local demands, but there is no incentive to grow such large quantities as the island could produce, as cultivators have often seriously lost thereby.

The potato disease (*Peronospora*), so well known in England, is at times very severe on lands at the higher elevations, but if the soil were more kindly treated and new stock introduced from England from time to time this disease would not probably be severely felt.

I was informed that as many as three crops per annum of potatoes have been off the same land; as the use of manure is the exception and not the rule, and as some soils have been under continuous cultivation for the last two hundred years, it speaks well for the inherent quality of St. Helena soils that they are still yielding large, and where properly treated, abundant crops.

Hops.—While on a visit to Mulberry Gut, in the neighbourhood of Longwood, it occurred to me that in such sheltered, rich hollows as this hops might be cultivated with success. I discussed the subject with many of the cultivators, and the impression was that hops would do well in St. Helena. Plants might be obtained either from England or America. The cultivation, like tobacco, inasmuch as it yields a large return on a small acreage, is well worthy of attention.

Cotton.—A fine sample of St. Helena cotton was presented to me by Mr. Benjamin Grant, which attracted considerable attention at home. The sample has since been deposited in the Museum of the Royal Gardens, Kew. At present prices, I fear St. Helena cannot grow cotton to compete with other countries, but the subject should not be lost sight of in case the plants, growing almost wild, can be utilized.

Cocoa-nuts.—Only a few cocoa-nut palms grow in the island, and these chiefly in the Jamestown Valley. Owing to there being no sandy beach, or any sandy hills or banks, along the coast of St. Helena, the cocoa-nut palm is unable to obtain the conditions so essential to it. Few, if any, of the plants are in bearing, and owing to the dry, gravelly, and poor quality of the soil, the stems are slender and weak, lacking the robust, luxuriant, habit so marked in the West Indies, and evidently showing it is not at home here. I would recommend a more generous treatment of the plants; plenty of manure being forked in among the roots, and an occasional application of salt water or of the brine out of pickled beef or pork barrels.

Sugar Cane.—A few plants of the ordinary varieties of sugar cane are found in Jamestown, but no attempt is made to cultivate them. For eating purposes many of the newer varieties might be introduced, as also for the purposes of fodder for horses and cattle.

Indian Corn or Maize.—This is cultivated to be cut as a forage plant in the green state, but is seldom grown as an article of food. To many people in countries where maize, either in the green state (cobs), or as meal, enters largely as an article of daily food, it would be a matter of surprise to find that it is hardly known here. Owing to custom and habit the people in St. Helena consume large quantities of rice; in fact, as long as a St. Helenian can procure a little rice to go with his fish he is quite happy. There is no doubt if maize could be substituted for rice as the staple food of the bulk of the inhabitants of St. Helena the island could easily dispense with the present large importations of rice, and possess within their own resources the chief food supply of the inhabitants. The taste for rice has arisen from the former close connexion of the island with India, and the facilities which then existed for obtaining it by means of homeward bound ships. In case of war and the blockade of the island for any length of time, rice would be practically cut off, but maize if grown locally would be at hand and provide a good food supply for an indefinite period. Both on these grounds and the great adaptability of the soil for growing maize, when it cannot possibly grow a bushel of rice, it might be advantageous to do something to encourage the cultivation of maize in St. Helena, and so bring it prominently before the people.

At the present time oats and maize are imported from the Cape and America for feeding horses, whereas the latter at least might be produced locally in large quantities.

Fisheries.—Fish of all kinds abound in the neighbourhood of St. Helena, and are easily caught. A large industry might be established in fish curing for exportation if sufficient enterprise were created amongst the inhabitants, and this wonderful resource of so isolated an island rendered conducive to its wealth and prosperity.

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The American whalers obtain large supplies of oil within easy reach of St. Helena, while cod and mackerel might be caught in large quantities.

The chief food fishes found in the neighbourhood of St. Helena are :—gurnard, eel, cod, mackerel, tunny or albicore, bullseye, cavalley, flounder, hog-fish, mullet, skulpin ; crustaceans, such as stump and crayfish ; and the green turtle. The boats and appliances now in use are too small for deep sea fishing, and on this account chiefly many very valuable fish found on the windward side of the island are seldom caught.

Bee Culture.—The honey bee was, I believe, at one time introduced to the island, and it became quite naturalised. According to Melliss "it almost suddenly disappeared about 18 or 20 years since."

As there are so many flowers constantly in bloom, and all the conditions exist for profitable bee farming, I would recommend that bee farming as a regular industry be introduced and encouraged. The export of beeswax and honey from Jamaica, an industry chiefly in the hands of negro settlers, amounts to the annual value of 8,000*l.* per annum.

The Pride of India (*Melia Azedarach*), an Indian tree, now widely distributed all over the world, is one of the commonest objects in the island. About Christmas time it is covered with masses of blue-coloured, sweet-scented blossoms. These are generally succeeded by immense quantities of small spherical yellow coloured fruits, generally considered to possess poisonous qualities.

Although the root is bitter and nauseous and used in North America as an anthelmintic, the tree practically is of little economic value. It must be distinguished from *Melia Azadirachta*, the Neem tree or Margosa, which is a very valuable plant. From the latter a kind of toddy is obtained by tapping ; and from the fruit an oil is extracted fit for burning and other domestic purposes.

The Peepul trees of Jamestown (*Ficus religiosa*) are remarkable for their great age and the peculiar contorted and weather-beaten appearance which they have assumed. These trees afford grateful shade in the streets of Jamestown; and it is much to be desired that more of these and other trees be planted on all sides to relieve the monotony of the purplish lava hue which pervades streets, houses, rocks, and everything.

The graveyards and waste lands between the houses and the steep cliffs of lava on both sides of Jamestown Valley might be rendered ornamental and even picturesque if planted with hardy trees and shrubs. The Peepul, two or three other species of *Ficus*, especially the India-rubber tree (*F. elastica*), the Indian almond (*Terminalia Catappa*), the Caffre date (*Harpephyllum caffrum*), and numerous ornamental aloes would grow admirably in such situations.

The present governor has done a little in this way already, and it is with the view of strengthening his hands in so laudable a work that I draw attention to the subject in this report.

The Caffre date might be largely utilized also to relieve the monotony of the dreary waste at Half-Tree Hollow and Dallas Village, as well as generally on exposed barren spots in the neighbourhood of dwellings.

Amongst the plants of interest in the island I may mention a remarkable fine specimen of the Chili palm (*Jubæa spectabilis*), erroneously called the double coco nut (*Lodoicea sechellarum*) in the local hand-book published by Mr. Grant. This plant grows at Farm Lodge, and attains a height of about 40 feet. The stem at the base measures about 5 feet in circumference, and is crowned at the top with almost a globular mass of fine long pinnated fronds, somewhat resembling the date palm, but, if possible, with a more pronounced glaucous tint.

This palm fruits freely, the nuts being small and spherical, having much the characteristics of miniature coco nuts. Owing to the eagerness with which they are sought, for the sake of the white edible kernel, they appear to have never been sown. At least it is remarkable that, although the palm is well known and a very striking object in the country, not a single plant has been raised from it during the numerous years it has continued to produce seed.

The seed work acacia (*Piptadenia peregrina*, BTH.), is utilised for ornamental purposes. Its seeds are gathered, dyed black by means of copperas, and made into bracelets, brooches, and other ornaments.

The Cape Yew (*Podocarpus elongata*) is one of the handsomest and most successful timber trees in the island. It produces an abundance of seed, which grows freely in all places around the parent trees.

Bamboos in several varieties are established in the island. The handsome *Dendrocalamus giganteus* grows to a large size at Oakbank, where I had the pleasure of finding it in flower.

Sea Bean (*Entada scandens*). I saw several of these large beans which had been washed ashore on the windward side of the island. As the plant is not found at the Cape, it is probable that these seeds had been brought by sea currents all the way from the West Indies or the West Coast of Africa. It is said that these sea waifs have germinated in St. Helena and produced one or two fine plants. At present, however, I believe there is no plant existing.

APPENDIX I.

Owen's College, Manchester,
November 16, 1883.

My Lord,

I have the honour to reply to the letter of Sir Robert Herbert's of November 7th with reference to samples of pyrolusite collected by Mr. Morris in St. Helena, requesting report and analyses.

Sample 1. (St. Helena manganese, soft, found in clay beds.)

Per-centage of manganese dioxide, 35·41.

Sample 2. (St. Helena manganese, hard, found in clinker.)

Per-centage of manganese dioxide, 63·19.

The value of manganese ore at the present moment is 70*s.* (3*l.* 10*s.*) per ton, delivered at Liverpool or Garston, for an ore containing 70 per cent. of manganese dioxide. For poorer ores a deduction of 2*s.* 6*d.* for every degree or per-centage is made. It thus appears that the material No. 1 is worthless, whilst No. 2 would be worth 52*s.* 6*d.* per ton delivered.

Manufacturers of chlorine, the chief employers of this ore, rarely buy any manganese so low as 63 per cent.

Your Lordship will therefore see that should the cost of getting and transport amount to anything approaching the figures given by Mr. Morris, any economic use of the St. Helena pyrolusite is out of the question.

I have, &c.

To the Earl of Derby,
Colonial Office.

(Signed) H. E. Roscoe.

APPENDIX II.

Report on Three Samples of Earths from St. Helena submitted to me for Chemical Analysis.

The three samples submitted to me were numbered I., II., and III. respectively.

No. I. This is a specimen of fibrous arragonite or carbonate of lime, containing 92 per cent. of carbonate of lime, 1·1 per cent. moisture, 3·50 per cent. silica, and 2·3 per cent. alumina. This, when burnt in kilns, would form quicklime, which, when slaked, is very useful for field purposes, and increases the production of crops in a high degree.

Nos. II. and III. are both specimens of gypsum, the former containing 20·62 per cent. water and 79·38 per cent. sulphate of lime, and the latter 21·3 per cent. water and the rest sulphate of lime, they are therefore pure minerals. Quicklime cannot be obtained from this by burning, but it can be used directly as manure in the fields, and is very useful when judiciously employed.

(Signed) B. H. H. Hooker.

Royal School of Mines,
South Kensington, S.W.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

No. 14.

Governor Sir F. A. WELD, K.C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the EARL of DERBY.

Sea Belle, Penang,
November 12, 1883.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship copies of the Blue Book Report and of the Administration Reports of Penang and Malacca for the year 1882.

I have, &c.

(Signed) FRED. A. WELD,
Governor.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Derby,
&c. &c.

REPORT on the STRAITS SETTLEMENTS BLUE BOOK for the Year 1882.

Finance.

1. The revenue of the Colony received during the year 1882 amounted to $2,465,153, and the expenditure defrayed during the year amounted to $2,344,549, giving a surplus on the year's transactions of $120,604.* The following comparative statements give particulars of the revenue and expenditure in 1881 and 1882 :— Revenue and expenditure.

Revenue.			Expenditure.		
——	1881.	1882.	——	1881.	1882.
	$	$		$	$
Land revenue - -	198,716	210,890	Salaries - - -	712,723	749,661
Rents exclusive of land -	6,566	5,009	Contingencies - -	14.134	18,512
Licenses - - -	1,582,822	1,583,142	Pensions - - -	57,552	65,187
Stamps - - -	227,385	226,494	Revenue services -	35,513	32,999
Port and harbour dues -	73,841	81,862	Administration of justice	4,797	3,690
Postage - - -	69,503	74,351	Ecclesiastical - -	1,065	1,077
Fines, forfeitures, and fees of Court - -	57,427	51,923	Charitable allowances -	10,000	9,156
Fees of office - -	10,402	12,603	Education - -	62,562	60,596
Reimbursements - -	†117,604	†119,035	Medical - - -	79,561	82,667
Sale of Government property - - -	3,844	920	Police - - -	41,054	47,319
Interest - - -	47,451	61,592	Gaols - - -	51,715	52,958
Miscellaneous receipts -	4,216	5,298	Harbour department -	5,711	5,814
Special receipts - -	34,045	32,034	Lighthouses - -	‡58,529	16 433
			Government vessels -	20,442	20,144
			Conveyance of mails -	44,519	49,793
			Rent - - -	5,920	6,304
			Transport - - -	53,848	45,450
			Interest - - -	26,658	21,532
			Miscellaneous services -	100,171	79,172
			Works and buildings -	488,457	480,925
			Roads, streets, and bridges - - -	55,803	94,474
			Land and houses purchased - - -	600	1,095
			Military expenditure -	239,232	239,437
			Native States - -	822	429
			Special expenditure -	184,420	159,725
Total -	2,433,822	2,465,153	Total - -	2,355,808	2,344,549

* Allowing for arrears at the beginning and end of the year, the revenue was $2,470,924, and the expenditure $2,337,445, giving a surplus of $123,479, and raising the net balance to the credit of the Colony, as shown in the next statement, from $942,759 to $1,066,238.

† Includes Municipal contribution towards Police expenditure, $50,600.

‡ Includes $48,304 for additional lights.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

Assets and liabilities.

2. The following statement gives particulars of the Assets and Liabilities at the beginning and end of the year 1882:—

Assets.			Liabilities.		
——	1st January, 1882.	31st December, 1882.	——	1st January, 1882.	31st December, 1882.
	$	$		$	$
Cash on current accounts or on fixed deposit with local banks - -	986,446	688,042	Debenture Loan - -	411,200	373,333
			Deposits, &c. - -	270,246	113,927
			Expenditure in arrears -	80,250	73,146
Balance on Crown Agent's account and Bills *in transitu* - - -	164,236	183,477			
Invested in Government of India Loans - -	—	355,000			
Loans to native States -	321,685	130,550	Nett balance to the credit of the Colony -	942,759	1,066,238
Loans to Municipalities -	152,500	192,500			
Miscellaneous advances -	27,751	29,466			
Singapore Defences account - - -	41,262	41,262			
Revenue in arrears -	10,575	6,347			
Total - -	1,704,455	1,626,644	Total - -	1,704,445	1,626,644

Revenue.

Land revenue.

3. The following statement gives particulars of the land revenue collected in 1881 and 1882:—

——	1881.			1882.		
	Singapore.	Penang.	Malacca.	Singapore.	Penang.	Malacca.
	$	$	$	$	$	$
Premium on leases - -	33,650	6,654	10,325	58,026	9,066	647
Rents - - - -	28,761	41,010	47,045	33,545	30,656	52,788
Tenths and royalties - -	6,433	729	15,349	5,815	870	10,080
Miscellaneous - - -	1,651	6,664	445	2,054	6,668	675
	70,495	55,057	73,164	99,440	47,260	64,190
	198,716			210,890		

Licenses.

4. The excise farms and the pawnbrokers' farm, the rents of which are included under the head of licenses, were re-let in the year 1882, but the rents under the new farms did not become payable till January, 1883, and they do not, therefore, affect the accounts for 1882. The following statement shows the rents for

the several farms for the periods 1880-1882 and 1883-1885, respectively :—

—.	1880–82.	1883–85.
	$	$
OPIUM—		
Singapore - - - -	*633,984	960,000
Penang - - - -	440,640	480,000
Malacca - - - -	72,600	153,600
	1,147,224	1,593,600
SPIRITS—		
Singapore - - - -	*158,496	204,000
Penang - - - -	178,980	216,000
Malacca - - - -	27,000	34,200
	364,476	454,200
PAWN—		
Singapore - - - -	30,756	58,320
Penang - - - -	38,112	42,000
Malacca - - - -	2,100	3,960
	70,968	104,280

* The rent of the united opium and spirit farms, Singapore, 1880–82 has been divided in the proportion of four-fifths and one-fifth.

Stamps.

5. The revenue from stamps shows a decline of $1,109 on the whole. The decline under "Revenue Stamps" (as distinguished from judicial stamps and stamps on licenses, &c.) amounted to nearly $3,000 ($145,000 as against $148,000); but this is attributable to reductions in rates of duties under the new stamp Ordinance, † which, if they had produced their full proportionate effect, would have caused a decline in the revenue of from $40,000 to $50,000. That the revenue, notwithstanding these reductions of rates, should have approached so closely to that realised in 1881, may be attributed, in some degree, to the substitution, from 1st November, 1882, of impressed stamps for adhesive stamps in regard to certain classes of duties; but, in the main, the more effectual collection of this branch of revenue appears to be due to the greater vigilance of the department, as made apparent by a few successful prosecutions, and also to the manner in which public attention has been drawn to the question by discussions in the Legislature and elsewhere. Perhaps, too, the reductions in the rates may have had some influence in weakening the tendency to evade the payment of the duties.

Port and harbour dues. Straits light dues.

6. The increase in the revenue under port and harbour dues—$8,021—is accounted for by the increase in the receipts from Straits light dues from $50,490 to $58,720.

† Ordinance II. of 1881, brought into operation by Order in Council on the 1st October, 1881.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

Expenditure.

Public works. Aggregate expenditure.

7. The expenditure in 1882 on public works (exclusive of Establishment)* as compared with the similar expenditure on the previous year, is shown in the following statement:—

	1881.		1882.	
	Works.	Roads.	Works.	Roads.
	$	$	$	$
Singapore - -	372,906	941	267,951	2,642
Penang - - -	103,466	32,603	170,756	47,887
Malacca - -	12,085	22,259	42,218	43,945
	488,457	55,803	480,925	94,474

Principal works.

8. The following are the principal works undertaken, carried on, or completed in 1882:—

Works.	Estimated Cost.	Actual Payments. Completed Works.		Actual Payments. Works in Progress.	
		Prior to 1882.	1882.	Prior to 1882.	1882.
Singapore.	$	$	$	$	$
General Hospital -	42,750	36,247	6,498	—	—
New Criminal Prison -	349,750	—	—	292,645	54,928
Magistrates' Courts -	70,100	—	—	—	13,581
Tĕluk Ayer Bay -	507,071	—	—	249,790	81,544
Post Office - -	56,300	—	—	—	5,577
Penang.					
Central Police Station	22,000	—	—	4,199	15,843
Lighthouse, Muka Head - -	36,017	—	—	1,254	24,420
General Hospital -	91,000	—	—	27,264	52,890
Malacca.					
Central Police Station	25,000	—	24,643	—	—
Improvement of Hospital - -	23,500	—	—	—	1,298

* The Salaries of the Public Works Establishment as borne on the Estimates for 1882 were as follows:—

	$
Singapore - - - - -	25,100
Penang - - - -	17,132
Melacca - - - - -	7,296
	49,528

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

Military expenditure.

9. The expenditure classed in the accounts as military expenditure includes the Colony's annual contribution of $235,696 towards the expenditure on account of Her Majesty's troops quartered in the colony, and some minor expenses for rent allowances to officers, &c. The cost of the up-keep of military buildings amounted to $27,985.

Special expenditure. Pérak war debt.

10. Under the item "Special Expenses" have been included the payments to the Imperial Government on account of the Pérak war expenses. The payments on this account have been as follow :—

	$
1881. First instalment - -	180,000
1882. Second instalment - -	148,314
1883. Final payment - - -	164,157
	492,471

Assets and liabilities. Public debt.

11. The amount exhibited in the statement of assets and liabilities as due on the 31st December, 1882, under debenture loan, $373,333, represents (at exchange of 3*s.* 9*d.* to the dollar) the unredeemed balance, 70,000*l.*, of a loan of 100,000*l.* at 4½ per cent. interest contracted in 1877. The loan is in course of redemption through a sinking fund at the rate of 5½ per cent. per annum. The amount so redeemed in 1883 will be 5,500*l.* (5½ per cent. on 100,000*l.*) plus the amount 1,350*l.*, of the interest at 4½ per cent. on the portion, 30,000*l.*, redeemed up to the close of 1882.

Local Revenues.

Municipal accounts.

12. The following statement gives the revenue and expenditure of the municipalities of the three Settlements for 1881 and 1882, and particulars of their assets and liabilities at the close of the several years :—

Municipalities.	1881.	1882.
REVENUE—	$	$
Singapore - - - -	283,813	298,937
Penang - - - -	142,848	207,412
Malacca - - - -	25,054	25,445
	451,715	531,794
EXPENDITURE—		
Singapore - - - -	287,469	259,406
Penang - - - -	124,903	183,780
Malacca - - - -	21,462	30,108
	433,834	473,294
CASH BALANCE AT CLOSE OF YEAR—		
Singapore - - - -	16,305	55,836
Penang - - - -	21,659	45,291
Malacca - - - -	8,524	3,861
	46,488	104,988

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

Municipalities.	1881.	1882.
LOANS OUTSTANDING AT CLOSE OF YEAR—	$	$
Singapore (Government) - -	120,000	100,000
Penang (Government) - -	32,500	92,500
Penang (Private) - - -	69,200	69,200
Malacca - - - -	—	—
	221,700	261,700

Legislation.

Ordinances passed in 1882.

13. The following Ordinances were passed by the Legislative Council of the Colony during the year 1882:—

I.—An Ordinance to amend the law relating to employers and labourers under contracts of service.

II.—An Ordinance to repeal and re-enact with alterations the Steam-vessels Ordinance of 1873.

III.—An Ordinance to amend the penal code (protection of women).

IV.—An Ordinance to amend the law relating to dangerous societies.

V.—An Ordinance to extend the operation of the hackney carriage Ordinance, 1879.

VI.—An Ordinance for making temporary provision for securing the status of French Mail steamers at the ports of the Colony.

VII.—An Ordinance to amend the Law relating to boundaries of land.

VIII.—An Ordinance to authorise the collection of dues for lighthouses established by Act of the Imperial Parliament.

IX.—An Ordinance for making provision for the Public Service for the year 1883.

X.—An Ordinance for making final provision for the Public Service for the year 1881.

XI.—An Ordinance for making temporary provision for securing the status of French Mail steamers at the ports of the Colony.

XII.—An Ordinance to provide for the construction, maintenance and working of tramways in the Settlement of Singapore.

The whole of these Ordinances have received the gracious confirmation and allowance of Her Majesty the Queen, with the exception of Ordinances Nos. II. and IV., amendments to which are still under consideration.

Post Office.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

14. The following statements give particulars of the business transacted in 1881 and 1882, respectively:—

	1881.		1882.		Letters, &c.
	Received.	Despatched.	Received.	Despatched.	
Letters	479,023	434,767	489,152	445,251	
Newspapers	371,802	202,302	385,842	201,437	
Books	22,955	4,482	23,009	5,102	
Patterns	1,788	879	1,800	1,065	
Parcels	639	244	402	165	
	876,207	642,674	900,205	653,020	
Money Orders.	Issued.	Paid.	Issued.	Paid.	Money Orders.
United Kingdom	£2,470	£189	£2,916	£316	
India	—	—	Rs.30,078	Rs.2,233	
China	$1,966	$973	$1,501	$1,675	
Strait Settlements	$3,983	$4,003	$5,020	$5,623	
Native States	—	—	$321	$314	

Post Office Savings Banks.

15. Particulars of the business transacted by the banks at Singapore and Penang are given in the following statement. It was not till the current year that a branch of the bank was established at Malacca.

Singapore.
Penang.
Malacca.

	Singapore.	Penang.
New Accounts opened	111	64
Accounts closed	93	15
Accounts opened at the end of the year	293	63
	$	$
Deposited, 1882	22,514	5,538
Repaid, 1882	19,078	1,856
Balance due to Depositors—		
At close of 1881	37,035	573
At close of 1882	41,888	4,258

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

Education.

16. The numbers of the schools in the several Settlements, and the numbers of children attending (average enrolment) in 1881 and 1882 are given in the following table:—

	1881.		1882.	
	No. of Schools.	Average Enrolment.	No. of Schools.	Average Enrolment.
Singapore.				
English schools, boys - -	9	1,305	9	1,287
Do. girls - -	2	218	2	216
English and vernacular girls' schools - -	1	260	1	211
Malay, boys' schools - -	11	411	13	443
	23	2,194	25	2,157
Penang.				
English schools, boys - -	3	947	4	1,005
Do. girls - -	—	—	—	—
English and vernacular, boys -	5	134	6	192
Do. girls -	1	215	1	224
Malay, boys - - -	13	459	16	626
Do. girls - - -	3	99	3	103
Chinese, boys - - -	1	25	1	44
Province Wellesley.				
Malay, boys' schools - -	11	300	11	344
	37	2,179	42	2,538
Malacca.				
English Schools, boys - -	4	538	4	493
Do. girls - -	2	51	2	50
Malay, boys' schools - -	17	619	25	881
	23	1,208	31	1,424
	83	5,581	98	6,119

Population.

17. The Census of 1881 gave the following results in regard to the Population of the settlements. The numbers of births and deaths registered in 1881 and 1882 are appended:— Census.

	Singapore.		Penang.		Malacca.		Total.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Europeans - -	2,207	562	565	109	31	9	2,803	680
Eurasians - -	1,509	1,585	751	846	1,075	1,138	3,335	3,569
Malays - - -	11,471	10,684	42,560	42,212	32,784	34,729	86,815	87,625
Chinese - - -	72,571	14,195	55,313	12,507	15,721	4,020	143,605	30,722
Indians - - -	9,619	2,439	20,337	6,699	1,148	743	31,104	9,881
Other nationalities -	8,046	4,320	4,679	4,019	1,300	881	14,025	9,220
	105,423	33,785	124,205	66,392	52,059	41,520	281,687	141,697
	139,208		190,597		93,579		423,384	
Births registered—								
1881 - - -	832	751	1,262	1,057	1,113	987	3,207	2,795
1882 - - -	1,120	845	1,479	1,255	1,017	876	3,616	2,976
Deaths registered—								
1881 - - -	3,014	775	2,565	1,056	1,326	819	6,905	2,650
1882 - - -	3,927	1,084	3,800	1,475	2,429	1,482	10,156	4,041

Census 1881.

Births.

Deaths.

IMMIGRATION AND EMIGRATION.

Chinese.

18. The number of Chinese immigrants that arrived in Singapore in 1882 was 104,177, as against 90,271. The following figures show how they were disposed of:— Chinese immigrants.

	1881.	1882.
Remained in Singapore—		
Male - - - - -	45,694	54,353
Female - - - - -	2,053	1,534
Proceeded to Penang—		
Male - - - - -	40,234	44,523
Female - - - -	998	1,168
Proceeded to Malacca—		
Male - - - - -	672	1,688
Female - - - -	11	31
Proceeded to other places—		
Male - - - -	606	602
Female - - -	3	278
	90,271	104,177

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

Contracts to labour beyond the Colony.

19. Contracts to labour beyond the Colony were entered into by coolies at Singapore to the number of 10,822 in 1882, as against 11,054 in 1881. At Penang, the numbers were for 1882, 11,079, as against 12,159 in 1881.

No complete records of retro-migration, migration between settlements and emigration.

20. No records are kept of the number of Chinese who return to China, nor are records kept of the number of those who move from one Settlement to another, except in the case of the newly arrived coolies who pass on at once (see the foregoing statement) to Penang or Malacca, immediately after their arrival in Singapore. The numbers of emigrants to the Protected States and to Sumatra and other places, are but imperfectly indicated by the numbers of contracts to labour beyond the Colony, given in paragraph 18.

Indian.

Indian immigration and retro-migration.

21. The following are the statistics of the Immigration and Retro-migration of Indian coolies, as recorded in the Department of the Indian Protectorate at Penang :—

	1881.	1882.
Immigrants under the Immigration Ordinance—		
Men	729	1,136
Women	150	316
Dependents	159	209
Passengers not under Ordinance—		
Arrived	5,679	8,276
Returned to India	5,269	5,947

Trade and Shipping.

Imports and exports.

22. The following table gives the values of the Imports and Exports at the three Settlements, in 1881 and 1882.

	Imports.		Exports.	
	1881.	1882.	1881.	1882.
	$	$	$	$
Singapore	70,699,682	74,343,978	58,001,188	61,192,458
Penang	20,495,736	23,100,213	16,005,343	26,328,173
Malacca	3,664,230	4,082,136	3,919,431	4,074,041
	94,859,648	101,526,327	77,925,962	91,594,672

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

Shipping.

23. The numbers and tonnage of the vessels arrived at, and cleared from, the ports of the three Settlements in 1881 and 1882 are given in the following table.

	Arrivals.				Departures.			
	1881.		1882.		1881.		1882.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
Singapore - -	6,915	1,946,103	7,268	2,196,840	7,026	1,920,116	7,322	2,197,694
Penang - -	2,886	993,392	3,278	1,092,717	3,672	1,010,900	4,436	1,119,270
Malacca - -	1,276	198,059	1,510	207,196	1,456	199,369	1,654	209,737
Total -	11,077	3,137,554	12,056	3,496,753	12,154	3,130,385	13,412	3,526,701

Public Health.

Deaths, 1881 and 1882.

24. The registration returns of deaths in 1881 and 1882 give the following results :—

	1881.	1882.	Increase.
Singapore - - -	3,789	5,011	1,222
Penang - - - -	2,224	3,170	946
Province Wellesley - -	1,397	2,105	708
Malacca - - -	2,145	3,911	1,766
	9,555	14,197	4,642

Prevalent diseases.

25. The increase in the rate of mortality was, probably, not so great as would appear from these figures, as the registration is believed to have been more effectually carried out in 1882 than in 1881, but still the latter year must be considered as having been an unhealthy one. Cholera, choleraic diarrhœa, fever, variola, and beri beri are the diseases to which the increased mortality is principally to be attributed.

Hospitals.

26. To the same diseases is attributed the higher rate of mortality in the public hospitals.

Police and Crime.

Cases reported to police.

27. The Police Returns for the two years under review give the following results in regard to the numbers of offences "reported," the numbers "discovered," and the numbers remaining "undiscovered," or in regard to what the complainants were "advised to proceed by summons." By including in one column the figures for the two last categories, the returns are deprived of much of the interest which would otherwise attach to them,

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

and in future returns the numbers will be stated separately. The system on which the cases have been classified for the different years and in the different Settlements will also be revised, to obviate the somewhat anomalous results which are given in the present statement, and bring the figures into some connexion with the returns of the magistrates' courts.

	1881.			1882.		
	Cases reported.	Cases discovered.	Undiscovered or Complainant advised to proceed by summons.	Cases reported.	Cases discovered.	Undiscovered or Complainant advised to proceed by summons.
Singapore - - - -	4,576	1,796	2,780	4,107	2,172	1,935
Penang - - - -	5,556	521	5,035	6,442	2,797	3,645
Malacca - - - -	829	86	743	549	40	509
Total - - -	10,961	2,403	8,558	11,098	5,009	6,089

Judicial.

Judicial returns.

28. Statistical returns of the cases dealt with by the Supreme Court, on the civil and criminal sides; by the courts of requests; and by the police and marine magistrates, are given in the Appendix.*

Prisons.

Civil and criminal prisons

29. In each of the Settlements, there is a "civil" and a "criminal" prison. In the civil prisons are confined prisoners sentenced to "simple imprisonment," prisoners awaiting trial, prisoners under sentence of death, and prisoners for debt. Prisoners confined in the criminal prisons are those sentenced to rigorous imprisonment, who are divided into the following classes:—

(1.) "Revenue Grade" (prisoners for non-payment of fine).
(2.) Short-sentence prisoners (sentences not exceeding six months).
(3.) Long-sentence prisoners.

All long-sentence prisoners from Malacca and all prisoners from Penang whose sentences exceed two years, are sent up to the Singapore Prison.

(Signed) C. J. IRVING,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Singapore, 19th November, 1883.

* Not printed.

PENANG.

No. 15.

The ACTING RESIDENT COUNCILLOR, Penang, to the ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Resident Councillor's Office, Penang,
May 6, 1883.

SIR,

I HAVE now the honour to forward the annual statistics of this Settlement for 1882, compiled from the reports and statements submitted by the various heads of departments, whose hearty co-operation throughout the year it is my first duty to acknowledge.

2. In commencing my review of the statistics last year, I referred in brief to the numbers of our resident population in Penang and Province Wellesley drawn from the census returns of 1881, and showing a grand total of 190,597 of all nationalities. This year, I am able to add that a very steady increase to this number has taken place.

3. This is mainly due to an excess of immigration over emigration, particularly amongst the Chinese and Kling nationalities. The returns of the Assistant Protector of Chinese show as arrivals 45,122, and departures, chiefly to the plantations of Sumatra and the mines of Lârut, of 19,260. The Protector of Indian immigrants reports the arrival of 8,276 free passengers from India, and 1,452 immigrants under the Ordinance; of the former class, 5,947 returned to the Coast, leaving a residuum in the settlement of 2,329. Amongst the resident immigrant population, there was a slight falling off of 612 during the year, caused by deaths, desertions, and discharges.

The figures are:—

Immigrants employed on 1st January 1881 - - - -	2,281
Arrived in 1882 - - -	1,452
Total - -	3,733
Casualties during the year - -	812
Remaining - -	2,921

There is a further slight decrease in the population of 2,409, being the excess of deaths over births, as given by the Registrar-General, Straits Settlements, in his returns of the 14th February last, and noticed also by the Colonial Surgeon in his report, but

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it is more than likely that returns of births are but irregularly made in outlying districts.

4. On the whole, it may be safely anticipated that there will continue to be a gradual increase to our population from year to year, for there appears to be no prospect of any lessening of the stimulant to immigration in the demand for Chinese and Kling labour, and the favoured situation of Penang, in regard to Pêrak and other growing States around, will ensure its remaining the entrepôt for this labour.

5. The steady extension of our own plantations in province Wellesley and on the Island cannot, moreover, but continue to attract people to our shores, and as restrictions to emigration from India are gradually withdrawn, we may look for a much larger excess of labourers from that country, many of whom will, no doubt, in process of time, become settlers.

6. That the supply of labour is not equal to the demand may be partly gathered from the fact that wages are gradually rising throughout the Settlement, noticeable chiefly amongst the Kling labouring class; but in this estimate the improvement of the place generally has to be taken into consideration.

7. The revenue of the department of the Chinese Protectorate during the year was $16,639, and the expenditure did not exceed $8,702. The fees collected by the Protector of Indian immigrants amounted to $1,557—$1,452 being fees for immigrants, and $105 for the registration of contracts with ordinary coolies.

8. Education has continued to receive careful attention throughout the year, and, to meet the demand for it in certain districts five new Vernacular schools have been opened, and arrangements have also been set on foot to establish a large town school in the Charasta buildings, the present hired house having been found quite inadequate for the increasing number of boys.

9. For the "Tamils" in town, there are still only the two establishments receiving grants-in-aid, with here and there small schools under private management, and, as we progress, it may be found desireable to open Government schools for this class also. In province Wellesley, the Tamil boys are chiefly the sons of estate coolies, and for these, well managed schools have been opened for some time on most of the plantations. The Chinese in town, as a rule, send their boys to the Free and Branch Schools, but there are, for this race, a few private schools also in the Settlement.

10. There yet remains great room for improvement in vernacular education, the proportion of boys, from the ages of six to fifteen years, who go to school, being only 10 per cent. of the whole, and many are, therefore, growing up in ignorance and idleness. This important matter is now engaging the special consideration of the Government.

11. I had hoped this year to have been able to record a diminution in serious crime, but I regret that there should have been nine cases of murder, and nine of gang robbery, though, from the judicial returns, it is satisfactory to be able to record that

crime generally has not been on the increase in the Settlement. It is said that the facilities which Province Wellesley affords for escape into the Native States is one strong incentive to organized crime, and no doubt this is in part true, but when traced to their legitimate source, I believe it will be found that a large proportion of the worst cases of gang-robbery are due to the vice of gambling inherent amongst the Chinese, and now followed by many Malays.

12. The police are not behind-hand in their endeavours to suppress this vice, but the time must come when larger powers will have to be given them. The Government is now moving in the direction of giving these increased powers by the introduction of an Ordinance "To amend the law relating to unlawful gaming." The removal of certain well known "dens" behind Beach Street, which the Reclamation Scheme will ensure, may be found to be in itself some mitigation of the evil in the town.

13. "Civil Cases" before the Supreme Court have increased greatly throughout the year, viz., from 424 in 1881, to 726 in 1882, and arrears have necessarily accumulated. The Court was, however, assisted by the Chief Justice of the Colony, and the Senior Puisne Judge, the former sitting from the 16th November to the 27th December, and the latter from 4th to 27th May, and opportunity was also availed of once during the year to hold the full Court of Appeal.

14. In my last year's report, on reviewing the trade of the Settlement, I was only able to state that it was fairly satisfactory, but the returns this year of exports and imports enable me, I am glad to say, to record a marked expansion, under both heads. The declared value of the imports amounted to $23,100,213, showing an increase over 1881 of $3,791,878, and the exports reached the sum of $26,328,173, or an increase on the year 1881 of $10,647,066. The trade with the United Kingdom, which it is significant in these days to notice, amounted to $8,979,210, and with British colonies to $17,768,701, while that with the Native States has also considerably increased.

15. The total value of tin exported was $6,703,000; and imported was $5,191,475;* of spices generally, $2,342,429; of sugar, $1,398,664; of tapioca, $223,292; and rice, to the value of $2,410,948, has been imported, and the exports have been $1,831,889. The present small local trade in "Copra,"† and with the Nicobar Islands and Sumatra, which it is desirable to encourage, has been maintained during the year.

	$
* From Pêrak and Lârut - - -	2,517,873
„ Junk Ceylon and Tongkah - -	2,652,591
„ Burmah - - - -	21,011
	5,191,475

† It may be well to state, for other than mercantile readers, that some years ago it was customary to express the oil from the cocoa-nut, and export it in barrels. More recently, it was found better to cut the kernel into strips, sun-dry them, and export them in bags, leaving the oil to be expressed in Europe. In this form it is called "Copra."

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16. In regard to opium, in which we have much concern, it is interesting to notice in the report on the trade returns of India for 1881–1882, that there has been a gradual decrease in the exports from that country.

17. This falling off is reported as not to be due to any decreased productive power in India, but rather to the powerful competition of the Persian and Chinese grown opium.

18. The report further goes on to state: "The accounts of "recent travellers through China confirm the statements made "of the increasing cultivation of this drug in the southern part "of the country, while the imports of the Persian drug into "China are said to have been from about 1,600 chests in 1876, "to 7,800 chests in 1881–1882."

19. I would here take the opportunity to mention that our own trade returns for 1882 have been more carefully verified and compared, and this, no doubt, is in part due to the co-operation with the Government by the merchants generally, which is here acknowledged.

20. The shipping returns show a corresponding increase; the aggregate tonnage inwards amounted to 1,049,364, and outwards to 1,047,573, being 9 per cent. over last year. The steam traffic has increased by 73 steamers inward, and 76 outward.

21. The Post Office returns give about 30 per cent. more letters as passing through the Central Office than during the previous year, while newspapers, books, and parcels have remained about the same. The money order business has improved.

22. Turning now to the general revenue of the Settlement, I find a decrease in receipts of $9,263, but this is accounted for by the recovery of fewer "arrears" of land rents this year, which was anticipated. There was an increased expenditure of $79,221, caused chiefly by further outlay on "Public Works" and "Communications." In regard to the municipal revenue, an increase of $15,886 is shown in the returns, but there was a loss under the head of "Market Rents," owing to a reduction during the building of the new iron market, which brought the result of the general transactions of the year to an actual increase of revenue over expenditure of only $5,482. Through the assistance of his Excellency the Governor in granting a loan, street conservancy and drainage have had the special attention of the Municipal Board.

23. The progress of the Settlement in regard to agriculture, I am glad to say, continues at a steady and uniform rate, and the spirit of enterprise is still evinced in the investment, by our leading planters, of large sums of money in new and expensive machinery.

24. In province Wellesley (south) a new sugar estate has been opened by the Penang Sugar Estates Company, and steam mills have been erected thereon. The pepper plantations by the colony of Achinese in the north have been encouraged, and are now materially extended, while sugar planting generally by the Chinese

throughout the province has received a further impetus. Tapioca is still grown, and specially on two large estates, and I am able to add this year a few interesting notes on its cultivation, kindly supplied me by Mr. E. L. Roberts of the Alma estate.

25. In Penang, further spice plantations, viz., nutmegs and cloves, are being opened on the hill sides, and a new industry is about to be introduced at Ayer Etam, in the erection of machines for the preparation of "Coir" or coco-nut fibre for rope-making and other manufactures.

26. The produce of our padi lands in province Wellesley, however, will, I regret, be poorer this year, on account of the want of rain at the proper season. In this grain, there is always a greater variation in the crops than in any other, owing to the necessity of a regular command of water, and as the natives depend entirely upon it, this exceptional drought may occasion, I fear, some little distress.

27. The direct communication with the Madras coast by those commodious steamers, the "Meanatchy and "Maha Virjurinhis," which was established last year by the enterprising firm of Messrs. Katz Brothers, has been regularly kept up.

Two extra steamers have been also laid on between the Settlements and Lârut, while our means of communication with China, in connection with the importation of labour, have been improved.

28. In conclusion, it may be fairly said that the year 1882 has been a prosperous one for Penang, and that both far and near, signs are not wanting of the growing importance and prosperity of this the first British Settlement on the Malayan Peninsula.

(Signed) J. F. A. McNAIR, R.A.,
Acting Resident Coun

STATISTICS.

Colonial Revenue and Expenditure.

1. The revenue for 1882 was less than that of 1881 by $9,262.80, chiefly caused by a decrease in the receipts of arrears in land rents.

2. The revenue from stamps in 1882 was $77,370.88, against $77,973.19 in 1881, being a deficit only of $602.31.

3. On the 1st November, the rules as to impressed stamps under the new Orders in Council were brought into operation, and a steady increase in the revenue under this head may be expected.

4. Receipts on account of judicial stamps show an excess of $5,023.19 over 1881, and $7,344.83 over those in 1880.

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5. To provide further facilities to the public for obtaining stamps, four additional stamp agencies were opened during the year, under the charge of the teachers of vernacular schools, viz., two in Penang—at Balik Pulau and Bayan lepas—and two in province Wellesley, viz., at Tĕluk Ayer Tawar and Permâtang Pau.

6. The business of the "Savings Bank," under charge of the Assistant Treasurer, has considerably increased during this year.

7. Annexed is a comparative statement* of the revenue and expenditure for the years 1881 and 1882, showing the increase and decrease under each head of account.

Municipal Revenue and Expenditure.

8. A comparative statement* of the revenue and expenditure of the Municipal Fund is also appended.

9. It will be noticed that the rates on town houses have increased by $7,063.93 over those for 1881. This is, no doubt, due to more careful revision in the Secretary's department. The rates on country houses and land have remained about the same.

10. There was an increased receipt of $1,117 from taxes on private carriages also, due to special means taken by the Municipal Commissioners to ascertain where the tax was evaded. There was also a trifling increase on account of taxes on licensed carriages and carts.

11. The domestic rates for water supply have also increased, but it will be matter of satisfaction to the Commissioners when it may be in their power to recommend a reduction in the water rates over the whole town.

12. The Commissioners have obtained a loan from the Government during the year for the execution of certain necessary sanitary works, and the money has partly been expended in drainage and conservancy and to secure land at the Waterfall to ensure the purity of the present water supply. They have in contemplation also the construction there later on of an impounding reservoir. It is hoped that at no distant date a portion of this land may be utilised by the Government as a Botanic Garden for the collection and growth of plants from the rich store house in the Peninsula, for the purpose of re-forestation.

13. The new iron market has progressed, and will be opened about April of next year.

14. The roads generally in town and country have been well maintained. In regard to street lighting, the Commissioners have had under consideration the introduction of the electric light.

15. The engineer has had his staff of overseers increased by men from Ceylon, in order to secure more efficient supervision over works in progress.

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* Not printed.

Imports and Exports.

16. These returns show an increase of $2,604,477 in Imports and $10,322,830 in Exports during the year.

17. The grand total of "Imports" ranged to $23,100,213, and of "Exports" to $26,328,173.

18. In the "Imports from British Colonies," there was a decrease of $753,602, but in the "Exports" an increase of $1,956,743.

19. The trade betweeen Penang and foreign countries shows an increase of $1,999,690 in the "Imports," and $6,489,483 in the "Exports."

20. The trade carried on between this and the native states has also increased during the year, and the native craft was reinforced by 349 boats. The grand total of native vessels was 43,353 tons inward, and 71,697 tons outward, but Captain Fox relies more on the accuracy of the tonnage outward, though he believes the other figures to approximate very near to the truth.

21. It is satisfactory to note that the trade with the United Kingdom has increased in both Exports and Imports, the former computing at $1,876,604, and the later at $1,358,389.

22, It has been shown how difficult it is, in a free port, to obtain very accurate returns of Exports, and chiefly of Imports; but this year they have been prepared with more care, and it is hoped that, with the continued assistance of the Chamber of Commerce, their correctness from year to year may be more and more ensured.

23. A comparative statement* of the value of Imports and Exports between 1881 and 1882 is annexed.

Shipping.

24. The returns show an increase in the steam traffic of seventy-three steamers inwards, and seventy-six outwards. The general tonnage inward has increased by 89,225 tons, and outward by 91,456 tons.

25. The grand total of tonnage which entered the port during the year is 1,049,364, and 1,470,573 tons left the port.

26. Under Imports and Exports has already been shown the increase in the tonnage of native vessels, and this, it is satisfactory to note, is not declining.

27. The buoys and beacons have been carefully maintained during the year, and four new buoys have been put down in the South Channel. A wreck buoy has been placed over the site where the *Braemar Castle* sunk. The wreck was successfully blown up by the colonial engineer on the 19th June, 1882.

28. The Muka Head lighthouse is approaching completion, and a proposition has been made to transfer the present harbour light to Pulau Rĕmoh for the advantage of our large and increasing coasting trade, and to procure a more powerful light for

* Not printed.

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the harbour. At present, there are four steamers trading between this and Pêrak.

29. The Government has decided upon giving two launches to this port, which, with the additional requirements in lighthouses relief, are found to be absolutely necessary.

Land.

30. The total revenue derived from land during the year amounted to $47,263.46, which is $3,143.46 in excess of the estimate, but, as will be seen from the Treasury returns, there was a decrease on the revenue, as compared with last year, of $7,787.19 in consequence of there being fewer recoverable arrears of quit-rent to collect.

31. The total arrears of rent due to the State and shown on the rent rolls at the end of the year was $130,355.14, but of this large total no less than $98,665.14 is on account of expired leases and for Indian and Colonial permits issued for one year and for which rent has been entered annually. The sums are, in the greater proportion of cases fictitious, and although their recovery will not be abandoned altogether, it has been decided by the Government not to carry them forward in the rent-roll beyond the close of 1883.

32. There are also arrears of rent on old grants amounting to $31,670, which will be retained on the rent roll, and means taken to recover the same as the survey proceeds.

33. In the comparatively new district of the Trans-Krîan, on a rent roll of $2,585.86, nearly the whole rent for the year has been collected, which is very satisfactory. The fresh titles issued during the year were :—in Penang, 43, with an annual rent of $170.82; in Province Wellesley, 147, with an annual rent of $335,13; Trans-Krian, ditto, $229.30.

34. The total number of titles on which rent was paid during the year was 10,942, and these payments were made by 8,190 Malays, 2,013 Chinese, and 739 persons of other nationalities.

35. The lands belonging to Malays and Chinese were distributed as follows :—

—	Chinese.	Malays.
Penang - - - - -	2,280	1,482
Province Wellesley - - -	4,712	500
Trans-Krîan - - - -	1,198	31
	8,190	2,013

36. The nominal value of property registered in the land office was :—

	$
Penang - - - -	911,809.32
Province Wellesley and Trans-Krîan	234,741.52
	1,146,550.84

and the total value actually transferred was :—

Penang - - - -	721,371.32
Province Wellesley and Trans-Krîan	143,727.63

37. The duties of the land office, which have been ably maintained throughout the year, were taken over by Mr. W. Egerton on the 31st May, Mr. F. G. Penney having been transferred to the magistracy.

38. A comparative statement* of revenue collected in 1879, 1880, 1881, and 1882 will be found in the Appendix.

Post Office.

39. But little is required to be recorded here beyond the actual tables, and the following statements are given in the Appendix.*

I. Amount of correspondence received and despatched at the central office during the years 1880, 1881, and 1882.
II. Revenue and expenditure of the department.
III. Money order transactions during the last three years.

40. The postal service between the town and province Wellesley has been fairly maintained, but it is hoped that further improvements will take place during the ensuing year.

41. Statement IV* shows the amount of correspondence received and despatched.

Indian Immigration.

42. One thousand four hundred and fifty two (1,452) immigrants arrived during the year—1,136 men and 316 women, and 209 dependents, being an increase of 573 over last year.

43. Besides immigrants, 8,276 passengers arrived from India, and 5,947 returned to India. The Protector, Mr. Murray MacGregor, believes that many of these arrivals were immigrants within the meaning of the law, but no conviction could be obtained against any in a court of law for want of satisfactory evidence.

44. Desertions from estates still continue, owing chiefly to the higher rate of wages in Pêrak, and most coolies, on discharge,

* Not printed.

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resort thither. There is, moreover, a steady drain on the coolie population of this Settlement for work in that country.

45. The percentage of deaths during the year amongst the immigrant population was only 2·78, against 3·68 during 1881, and this result was attained notwithstanding an epidemic of fever and cholera during the year.

46. The Protector attributes the lower death-rate mainly to the exertions of Dr. McClosky and his staff, and to the willing and hearty co-operation of the planters.

47. He refers to the good start made in the education of Tamil children under the Rev. H. McD. Courtney, and of their having passed very well in the lowest standards when examined by him at the request of the Government.

48. The estates were all inspected, as usual, both by the Protector and Inspector, and no serious complaints were made by the coolies.

49. The fees collected during the year were $1,557, of which $1,452 were paid for immigrants, and $105 for the registration of contracts with ordinary coolies.

Chinese Emigration and Immigration.

50. Throughout the year, Chinese immigration has continued to flow into the Settlement at a very steady rate, the numbers registered being 3,066 over those for 1881. Of the 45,122 that arrived, 28,111 paid their own passage, and the remainder were admitted into licensed depôts, of which there are 14 established in the town.

51. There were 1,115 women and 379 children amongst the arrivals.

52. Since the commencement of the last quarter of the year, immigrants have been able to present their photographs for identification, each photograph bearing the seal of the Hongkong or Singapore emigration office.

53. Emigration to Deli and Lârut and places around has also continued to be very brisk—19,260 went to those countries, exclusive of women and children.

54. There were 9,045 contracts for labour entered into within the Colony, and 11,033 for labour without the Colony, and the Department has had some pressure put upon it.

55. Mr. Karl reports, in regard to secret societies, that after the suppression by Government, during the year, of the "Red" and "White" Flag Societies, there remained in Penang only six Chinese societies, viz.:—the Ghee Hing, the Twa Peh Kong, the Ho Seng, the Tsoon Sim, the Ghee Hock, and the Hai San.

56. In the early part of the year, there were two slight disturbances between the Ghee Hocks and Ghee Hins in province Wellesley, and the Twa Peh Kong and the Tsoon Sim societies

in Penang. These were readily suppressed, and no further trouble was experienced during the year.

57. This Department had attached to it during the year the onerous duties connected with the Contagious Diseases Ordinance and the knowledge of Chinese possessed by the Registrar has undoubtedly proved of great value in the working of the Ordinance.

58. The whole revenue of the Department, comprising stamp duties and fees under Contagious Disease Ordinance, amounted to $16,639.50, whilst the Expenditure, including the staff of the Registrar, amounted to $8,702.95.

59. Returns* of immigrants arrived during the year, and of the number of persons under the Contagious Diseases Ordinance, are given in the Appendix.

Education.

60. The statements for the year have been prepared by the Acting Superintendent of Education here, Mr. F. G. Penny. As the Ispector of Schools of the Colony reports fully on the whole subject of education, and general on all scholastic institutions, it is not thought necessary to do more than to place here a few statistics in regard to each separate school in the Settlement.

Free School.

61. The average enrolment for the year was 609, against 622 in 1881, while the average attendance was 406 and 461 respectively, or 76 and 74 per cent. of the enrolment.

62. The percentage of passes was 73, while in the previous year it was 66 per cent.

63. There has been a marked improvement in this school from the introduction of English certificated masters, but as there are only 2 per cent. of English speaking boys, the difficulties these masters have to contend against are very great.

64. At the suggestion of the Inspector of Schools, the Committee propose to open a Chinese class next year to train boys for the situation of Student Interpreters under Government.

65. An Account* of the income and expenditure of the school is given in the Appendix, and the finances are now controlled by a duly appointed Finance Committee.

Christian Brothers' School.

66. The average enrolment during the year 1882 was 251; 154 pupils were presented for examination in November, 12 full passes were obtained in Standard VI. and 22 in extra subjects.

67. Many who applied for admission during the year could not be received, owing to the want of suitable accommodation even for the number in actual attendance.

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* Not printed.

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68. The school sent six boys to Singapore for the Government examination. One of them obtained the fourth Government scholarship, and the other five, having obtained the requisite number of marks, were entitled to Government certificates.

Government English Branch School.

69. Opened in 1881, this school has, under Mr. Green, made a rapid advance.

70. The average enrolment for 1882 was 73, and the average attendance 54, or about 75 per cent., but at the date of this report the number of scholars had risen to 100.

71. The average age of the boys is eleven years, and it is noteworthy that many Malay boys attend regularly.

72. The annual expenses were $1,384.46, but as $128 were collected in fees, and $420 were received as voluntary contributions, chiefly from the Chinese, the actual cost to the State was very small.

73. This Government school was originally opened to teach boys up to Standard II, and to act as a feeder to the Free School, but it now appears to attract a class who would not go to that School, and the question will have to be considered, later on, as to whether it will be desirable to bring about an amalgamation between the two schools.

74. Mrs. Green has opened a school for Chinese girls, which has been placed on the list of those receiving "Grants-in-aid." The average enrolment for the year was 20·7, and average attendance 14·5. The result is not great, but, as an effort to advance female education, it is deserving of sympathy and support.

Tamil Schools.

75. There are only two Tamil schools in Penang, which are in the position of "Grant-in-aid" schools.

76. These are the Mission School under the Rev. J. Balavendrum, with an average enrolment of 38, and another opened at Datoh Kramat.

77. According to the late census, there were 1,243 Tamil boys between the ages of 6 and 15 years, two thirds of these are resident in town, and form a large enough number for whom to provide schools.

78. As the Government offers to Malays education at a cheap rate, it will, no doubt, be ready soon to provide schools, both in Penang and Province Wellesley, for the Tamils, whose increase in number may be yearly anticipated.

79. The past year has been marked as one of progress in vernacular education throughout the Settlement. There has been an increase in average enrolment of 239; attendance of 203; number presented, 156; of passes obtained, 318.

80. The numbers enrolled in December, 1882, show an increase of 388 over the numbers in the books at the beginning of the year.

81. Three new schools were opened in Penang, viz., at Pulau Betong, Sungei Bâtu and Tanjong Kumbar; and two new schools in province Wellesley—at Permâtang Pasir and Indra Mudah.

82. At Rĕlau, in Penang, a school was opened at the close of the year, which promises to be the most numerously attended of all the country schools, and arrangements have also been made to start a new school at Aor Gâding in province Wellesley.

83. A large school for 100 boys is being opened in town at a more commodious site at Charasta, in the most populous part of the town.

84. The average cost of educating each boy was, in Penang, $7·66, and in Province Wellesley, $9·54 per annum.

85. Mr. Penney points out that the old feud between the "Red" and "White" Flag Societies, has been very prejudicial generally to vernacular schools, but he hopes that it is gradually dying out.

86. Tables* showing the revenue and expenditure of these schools are given in the Appendix.

Medical.

87. Reporting on the general health of the Settlement throughout the year, the Colonial Surgeon is unable, from the statistics that have reached him, to give quite so favourable an account as he did last year.

88. He notes that the rainfall was considerably above the average, the total for the year being 126·50 inches; but whether the somewhat higher ratio of mortality was due to atmospheric conditions alone, or to preventable local and terrestrial causes of disease, he is unable quite to determine.

89. Small-pox was prevalent in certain country districts, but the prisoners in the gaol were healthier than ever they were known to be, and, although cholera existed in a more or less epidemic form in surrounding countries, the Settlement was comparatively free.

General Hospital.

90. The hospital was maintained in the old buildings at Charasta, until the close of the year, when the block of new buildings near the Infantry lines were completed and occupied.

91. The new Lock Hospital Wards, which are being erected by convict labour, are making fair progress.

92. The total number of Europeans treated during the year amounted to 90, the average for the preceding years being 91. The mortality amounted to 5·5.

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* Not printed.

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93. The total number of natives was 932, the average for the five preceding years being 616; percentage of deaths, 6·6.

94. The year has been characterised by an extraordinary immunity of cases requiring capital operations through injuries homicidal or accidental.

Pauper Hospital.

95. The reconstruction of the whole of the wards for the patients in this hospital has been completed during this year; and there is accommodation provided for 254 beds. The wards are seven in number, two being specially designed for bad cases. They are built on brick arches raised 4 feet from the ground level, with floors of glazed tiles set in cement, so that efficient cleansing can be carried out combined with rapid drying of the surface of the floor.

96. There is a minimum area to each bed of 97 superficial feet and 1,170 cubic feet, and ample ventilation is secured along the floor, below the eaves, and by the ridging of the roof. In addition to this, there is a proper proportion of doors and windows, so arranged as to prevent any excessive draught on the beds. The latrines are conveniently adjacent to the wards, and are on the dry earth system.

97. Auxiliary buildings, such as bath houses, kitchens, workshop, surgery, and stores, are placed centrally in the hospital enclosures. The baths are supplied with a constant stream of water from the hills. Dr. Hampshire mentions specially the name of Mr. Apothecary Carnegy as having taken great pains to promote the general efficiency of the hospital, and he adds that, with a female ward, laundry and servants' quarters, he considers that the requirements for this establishment will be fully met.

98. Under the Contagious Diseases Ordinance, the total number licensed was 10,875, against 12,210 in 1881, and the advantages derived, both on sanitary and medical grounds, from the operation of the Act can, in Dr. Hampshire's opinion, be hardly over-estimated.

Leper Hospital at Pulau Jerajah.

99. The admissions during the year have been considerably under the average. The treatment by Gurjon and Chaulmoogra oils has been continued, but the death rate has continued high: the percentage being 23·07 on the admissions for the year. Dr. Hillis, of the Mahaica Asylum, British Guiana, quotes a mortality of 26 per cent.

100. Dr. Hampshire attributes the high death-rate chiefly to the type of the disease and to the advanced state of it in which the patients are received.

101. The buildings have been maintained in excellent order throughout the year, and the weekly visits of the Senior Medical Officer have been maintained.

Gaol Hospital.

102. The health of the prisoners has been remarkably good, as shown by the following table:—

Number remaining in hospital on 31st December 1881 - - - - -	5
Number of admissions during the year -	156
Average daily number of sick - -	3·61
Percentage of admissions to average strength -	0·54
Percentage of deaths to totals treated -	1·91
Percentage of deaths to average strength -	0·001
Number of admissions into the prison - -	2,940

103. No doubt the exceptional health of the prisoners in this gaol is in part due to the admirable daily sanitary arrangements maintained there by the gaoler.

104. To be exact in matters of sanitation in so large an establishment, necessitates a gang of special men under close supervision, and although it has been stated that this gang should be somewhat reduced, Mr. Lamb is, I think, to be commended for his perfect success in all that relates to the health of the prison.

Vaccination.

105. The usual returns,* showing the numbers and nationality of those vaccinated are given in the Appendix, and nothing need be added but some regret that the numbers have considerably fallen off, which the Senior Medical Officer ascribes to the Ordinance being ineffective, the staff deficient and under-supervised, and to the periodical want of reliable lymph.

Province Wellesley.

106. Dr. McCrosky shows a larger number of admissions during the year into the four Government hospitals under his charge. The numbers being 2,245 against 1,711 in 1881.

107. The following table shows at a glance the admissions and deaths during the past four years:—

	Admissions.				Deaths.			
	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.
Province hospitals - -	1,311	1,587	1,711	2,245	105	90	155	198

(*continued*).

	Percentage of Deaths to Admissions.				Average daily sick.			
	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.
Province hospitals - -	9·53	6·30	9·05	8·37	97·00	98·36	109·38	107·64

* Not printed.

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108. Small-pox and beri-beri prevailed during the year, and, towards the end of the year there was an unfortunate outbreak of cholera, which the Colonial Surgeon attributes not to any local causes, but to the progress of the cholera wave from the Eastern Archipelago.

109. The following table gives the date of outbreak, the number and nationality of the cases treated and number of deaths, and per-centage to cases treated :—

Caste.	Central Province.				South Province.								Grand Total.		Percentage of Deaths to treated.	Remarks.
	Prye Estate.				South Estate V. B. & C.		Sungei Bakap Hospitals.				Bâtu Kawan.					
	1st Outbreak began 9th ceased 31st Aug.		2nd Outbreak began 16th ceased 30th Oct.		Outbreak began 14th ceased 30th Oct.		(1.) Outbreak began 16th ceased 30th Oct.		(2.) Outbreak began 21st ceased 30th Nov.		Outbreak began 11th Nov., ceased 4th Dec.					
	Treated.	Died.	Treated.	Died.	Treated.	Died.	Treated.	Died.	Treated.	Died.	Treated.	Died.	Treated.	Died.		
Chinese -	33	16	23	12	55	27	9	5	8	3	—	—	128	63	49·14	6 old
Klings -	1	1	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	25	*13	30	14	46·67	
Total -	34	17	25	12	57	27	9	5	8	3	25	13	158	77	8·73	* 7 Immigrants; coolies.

110. In the matter of vaccination, 2,264 cases were treated, as against 1,863 cases in 1881, and the number of successful cases were 1,195 against 830 in 1881. The average cost of each case was 48 cents, as compared to 82 cents last year.

111. The Estate hospitals have been well maintained throughout the year. Malarial fever of both the remittent and intermittent type broke out on the Bâtu Kawan estate in the month of July, and 174 cases were treated. This was due, Dr. McCrosky thinks, to an exceptional drought. Measures are now being taken to arrange for artesian wells. The ordinary death rate on this estate is, however, below 7 per cent., and, had no epidemic disease occurred, it would only have been 2·15 per cent.

JUDICIAL.

Supreme Court.

112. The following comparative table shows the number of cases entered in this court during the last three years. There is a considerable increase in "civil cases," but the decrease in the

number of "criminal cases," being about 5 per cent. less than 1881, is noteworthy:—

—	1880.	1881.	1882.
Criminal cases - - -	218	249	199
Civil cases - - -	367	424	726
Interpleaders - - -	28	16	33
Ecclesiastical cases - -	256	273	220
Bankruptcy cases - -	5	5	1
Magistrates' appeals - -	10	16	28
Crown suits - - -	1	18	25

113. The appeals this year from the decisions of the magistrates are nearly double the number of 1881.

114. There is a large increase of work in the registration of bills of sale; in 1880, the figures were 1,591; in 1881, 1,912; and in 1882, 2,359.

115. As the Chitties (money lenders) are the principal parties in these transactions, an idea of the business done by them may be fairly gathered. The bills of sale are for movable property only, mortgages on unmovable property not passing through the Registrar's Office.

116. The Registrar's Department has been kept efficient, and the revenue has exceeded the expenditure by $5,425.18, as shown in the Appendix.*

Magistrates' Courts.—Penang.

117. In 1881, it was recorded that 8,673 cases were brought before the magistrates. This year there were no fewer than 9,131 cases in which 12,909 persons were brought by summons, arrest, or warrant. There were 86 cases sent up to the Supreme Court, in which 127 persons were implicated.

118. Mr. Kynnersley, the first magistrate, refers with satisfaction to the general diminution of crime throughout the Settlement, and to a decrease in the number of cases brought before him, arising out of ill-feeling between secret societies. He refers to the greatly improved staff of interpreters to the police courts, but asks for one additional clerk—a Malay—to receive the fines and fees.

119. The collections during the year were as follows:—

	$
Fines - - - -	18,240.12
Fees - - - -	1,808.75
Total - -	20,048.87

120. A district court was opened at Balik Pulau, in the south of the island, during the year, under His Excellency the

* Not printed.

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Governor's instructions, which has been greatly appreciated by the people, who are in consequence saved the expense and trouble of coming into town themselves, and bringing with them their witnesses. 201 cases were tried during the year.

Province Wellesley, Magistrates' Courts.

121. There has been also an increase in the work in these Courts over last year:—

	Cases.	Persons.
1881 - - - - -	3,831	5,491
1882 - - - - -	4,255	7,190

but the increase is in the greater number of coolie cases, and not in criminal work. Previously, managers had dealt with cases of absence from labour on particular days, but on the 19th January, the Government decided that, under the Ordinance, they had no power to do so, and every case has now to be brought before the Court, at great trouble and inconvenience to all. An alteration in the law is now under consideration.

122. The magistrate, Mr. J. K. Birch, committed 94 cases to the Supreme Court. Of seven appeals from the decision of the magistrate, three were quashed and four upheld.

Courts of Requests.—Penang.

123. This court is held on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and is presided over alternately by the first and second magistrates.

124. There was an increase of 318 cases over last year.

Court of Requests, Province Wellesley.

125. Here the cases were 49 less than in 1881, with a slight increase on the fees received for stamps.

Gaols.

126. Major Taylor of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, who held the post of Acting Superintendent of Prisons, from the 26th April, reports favourably on the prison warders, European and Native, with only one exception amongst the former, a private of the regiment who was remanded to military duty.

127. On the 1st January, there were six European and 215 Native prisoners, and during the year 35 Europeans and 1,789 Natives were admitted.

128. The cost of maintenance was $266.47 for Europeans, and $6,383.90 for Natives, making a total of $6,650.37.

129. Discipline was well kept up and hard labour enforced.

130. Native prisoners were employed at the new Lock Hospital buildings and at stone-breaking. The daily task for the

latter being seven cubic feet of one-inch cube of hard rough granite.

131. During the year a proper "time bell" has been introduced, and the gaol yards properly lighted throughout. Electric bells have also been fixed at the gate keeper's. lodge connecting with them the hospital cellular wards and civil prison.

132. The health of the prisoners, as reported under Medical, has been exceptionally good.

133. The Acting Superintendent again refers to the low scale of pay of the European warders—a question which is now before the Government.

134. The usual returns* are given in the Appendix, but the whole returns are, under special instructions, now sent separately to the Secretary of State.

Police.

135. Mr. Robert Maxwell, the Superintendent of Police, reports that the total number of cases reported to the police during the year was 6,442, against 5,553 in 1881 ; of cases arrested, 7,755, against 8,608 in 1881 ; the number of cases discovered upon report, 1,987, against 520 in 1881.

136. There have been 9 cases of murder, and 9 of gang-robbery.

137. In regard to the latter, he fears that it will be almost impossible to stamp out this crime, until the neighbouring States of Kĕdah, Situl, and Purlis are better governed. The gang-robberies are often plotted in one or other of these States, and the offenders return there with their booty. It is only right to add that in every case reported to the authorities of those States, steps are taken to apprehend the offenders, and sometimes with success. An organised gang of 60 men with three boats were reported to have established themselves at Situl, and steps were at once taken by the Kĕdah authorities to dislodge them, our Government later on sending a man-of-war to cruise along the coast.

138. In regard to gambling, he hopes that the law may be made more stringent against shopkeepers who connive at the vice.

139. The suppression of the "Red" and "White" Flag Societies, effected without difficulty during the year, has been of great advantage towards the maintenance of peace in the town, and the respectable portion of the Mahommedan community freely acknowledges this.

140. The conduct and discipline of the police force is well reported on. During the year, ten European constables and thirty more men of the Sikh Contingent were brought on the rolls. There are still twelve more European constables required to make up the complement. The clothing and arms have been efficiently maintained, and the police buildings are reported to have neatly kept in excellent order.

* Not printed.

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141. There have been 927 hackney carriages registered this year and 1,420 syces; jinrikhsas* have been introduced by the Chinese, and appear to be very generally used.

142. The Superintendent of police reports the occurrence in the town during the year of two serious fires—in Campbell Street and Magazine Road — at which the members of the Penang Volunteer Fire Brigade were, as usual, early on the spot and did signal service. At the villages of Bukit Mertâjam and Mâcham Bubo much damage was also caused by fire.

143. The fire Commissioners have two steam fire engines and three hand engines placed in convenient parts of the town.

Public Works and Survey.

144. The expenditure on public works during the year amounted to $218,825, which is the largest outlay that has taken place for the past seven years, *vide* comparative table in the Appendix.†

145. The chief works undertaken were the new police station at the powder magazine, the new block of hospital buildings, the lighthouse at Muka Head, and the completion of telegraph communication between Penang and province Wellesley, and the various principal police stations scattered about the country.

146. There have been various works of minor importance, all tending to the efficiency of the Public Departments concerned. The outlay under the head of "Maintenance" was also greater than the average of the preceding seven years, but all our public buildings have been now placed in efficient repair.

147. The outlay on "Communication" in province Wellesley have been $15,273.96 more than in 1881, and existing roads have been maintained in fairly good order, but, owing to the difficulty of obtaining suitable metal, machinery is being set up in the province by the Public Works Department to crush their own stone. We may, therefore, hope to have, by degrees, all the principal roads macadamised throughout this part of the Colony, which, in point of importance, is increasing every year.

148. The amount of survey work done is shown also in a comparative table† in the Appendix. It is to be regretted that this year so little progress can be reported, but this is due to the resignation and illness of most of the Survey Staff.

149. The Department throughout the year was under the charge of Mr. W. D. Bayliss, C.E., who is about to retire on a well earned pension.

(Signed) J. F. A. McNAIR, R.A.,
Acting Resident Councillor.

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* A light two-wheeled vehicle drawn by one man.

† Not printed.

APPENDIX.

TAPIOCA CULTIVATION IN PROVINCE WELLESLEY.

The lands selected for its production are generally the flat alluvial soils. The small hills, composed of a kind of red clay, are sometimes planted, but they are not preferred, as the soil is comparatively poor, and the outturn from them does not pay with the present low prices of tapioca.

The flat lands here vary a good deal, some are sandy, and others are of a kind of clay that becomes quite hard and unworkable in very dry weather. The latter description of land produces the best crop.

These flat lands require good draining, as the tapioca roots soon rot in over-wet soil.

The cultivation is performed altogether by the "changkol" or wide hoe. Chinese coolies with their long handled "changkols" and the Madras coolies with their shorter-handled ones, do the work. English ploughs have been tried, but the results have always been unsatisfactory. The expense was great, and the work far inferior to what the "changkols" turned out.

We are very particular about having our lands cultivated to the highest state. Not until they have been twice dug, and smoothed over, do we put in the plant, or seed sticks, and, as a general rule, after the two diggings, the soil is thrown into straight banks five feet apart.

On these banks the tapioca stalks—cut into pieces about six inches long, each containing a knot—are planted. These are put in at a distance from each other of two feet, just below the surface of the ground. From the eyes in these knots, in about eight days' time, with favourable weather, the shoots appear above the ground, and in a well planted, clean field, have a very pretty appearance. Manure is then applied, and good weeding is continually required, until the roots are ready for being dug up, which is a year to fourteen months after planting.

Two kinds of tapioca have been tried here—the "Green" and the "Red"—and after the trial of some years, the preference has, from what I have seen, been given to the "Green." There was no difference to be observed in the quality produced from them, but the quantity of flour per orlong appeared to be in favour of the "Green." It is said that the "Red" tapioca is not so subject to the attack of caterpillars as the "Green" is. On the other hand, the "Red" is much more liable to seed.

The roots, after good washing, are manufactured into tapioca, but this simple process is too well known to make it necessary for me to take up your space by describing it.

It is well for me to mention that my experience (not a long one), does not enable me to speak from my own personal knowledge of

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how tapioca is cultivated and manufactured in other countries, or even at Singapore. So, if my brief account does not fully and truly apply generally, it can be understood why it is so. Even at Malakoff—the other large estate in province Wellesley—the system may be somewhat different to what it is here, owing to the Malakoff soil being of a kind to require other treatment.

(Signed) E. L. ROBERTS.

MALACCA.

MALACCA.

No. 16.

ADMINISTRATION REPORT, MALACCA, 1882.

Revenue.

The revenue of 1882 amounted to $191,868, which, compared with $204,858 in 1881, shows a decrease of $12,990.

2. This decrease is accounted for by the land revenue falling about $9,000 short of the previous year, fines, forfeitures and fees of court about $1,692, and reimbursements $3,266; while there was a gain on stamps of about $1,000. The revenue for 1882, however, shows a rise on that for 1880 of nearly $10,000, as will be seen from the following figures:—

	$
1879 - - - -	147,956
1880 - - - -	181,948
1881 - - - -	204,858
1882 - - - -	191,868

Expenditure.

3. While the revenue was $191,868, the expenditure was $224,372, a difference of $32,504; this was expenditure for extra works incurred by the public works department, and paid for out of Treasury balances, so that it should not be regarded as a deficit, the revenue being amply sufficient to cover the ordinary expenditure.

The following table gives the expenditure for 1882 and the three years preceding:—

1879 - - - -	162,558
1880 - - - -	178,052
1881 - - - -	168,773
1182 - - - -	224,372

REVENUE DETAILED.

Land.

4. Under this head, as already noticed, there is a decrease of about $9,000 as compared with the previous year, the latter being $73,164 against $64,190 in the year under review, as appears in the following figures:—

—	1881.	1882.
	$	$
Premium on leases - - - -	10,325 00	646 64
Rents (current) - - - -	42,819 93	49,530 68
Do. (arrears) - - - -	4,224 95	3,257 89
Tenths and royalties, coral and granite -	221 37	375 90
Do. tin - - -	1,420 85	350 97
Do. brick kilns - -	118 95	94 80
Do. padi - - -	4,965 24	1,680 36
Do. wood, oil, &c. -	449 81	498 99
Do. gambier - -	686 43	1,080 54
Do. tapioca - -	5,323 59	3,488 77
Do. fruits - -	1,131 96	480 39
Do. timber - -	1,030 83	2,029 64
Do. sand - -	278 00	507 87
Fees on registration, &c. - - -	167 00	167 00
	73,163 91	64,190 44

Decrease.—Premium on Leases.

5. From the foregoing table it will be seen that the chief diminution in receipts is in the first item—"Premium on leases;" this is to be accounted for by few large leases being issued in 1882, most of those issued in 1881 being for lands previously promised for tapioca. The issue of new leases for tapioca was put a stop to in 1882.

Other Items of Decrease.

6. The other items of decrease are about:—(a) $967 on arrears of rent; (b) $1,070 on tin; (c) $3,285 on padi; (d) $1,835 on tenths of tapioca; and (e) $650 on tenths of fruits.

7. The above five items of decrease are to be accounted for as follows:—(a) the arrears on rent have been recovered; (b) tin is less worked than formerly, and the mines still worked produced less; (c) the cultivation of padi was much reduced by the destructive murrain among buffaloes, which carried off some 4,000 or 5,000 of them, and a considerable proportion of the padi actually cultivated was destroyed and damaged by floods; (d) tapioca cultivation on leased land has been put a stop to as far as possible; (e) it was a bad year for fruit, owing to the prolonged drought.

Items of Increase.

8. On the other hand, other items show an increase:—(a) $6,710 on current rents; (b) about $150 on coral and granite; (c) nearly $400 on gambier; (d) just within $1,000 on timber; (e) about $230 on sand.

9. (a) is accounted for by the leases issued in 1881; (b) by an increased demand for those minerals, and corresponding energy in the land office; (c) is due to greater supervision, exercised with the aid of the local police officer (Sergeant Mat), in the Pĕngkâlan Bâlak district; (d) 20 per cent. is now charged on timber wanted for use in business; (e) the demand for sand has increased, and considerable damages have been recovered for sand removed without passes.

Licenses.

10. The revenue from licenses for 1882 was, within a few dollars, the same as for the two preceding years, viz.:—

—	1881.	1882.
	$	$
Opium - - - - -	72,600	72,600
Spirit - - - - -	27,000	27,000
Pawnbrokers - - - -	2,100	2,100
Public-houses - - - -	47	41
	101,747	101,741

STAMP REVENUE.

11. The stamp revenue for four years, 1879–1882, was as under:—

—	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.
	$	$	$	$
Commercial - - -	5,031	4,888	5,450	5,800
Judicial - - - -	7,589	6,748	5,568	6,434
	12,620	11,636	11,018	12,234

Commercial Stamps.

12. There has been a gradual, but very small, rise in the revenue from commercial stamps, which is certainly not as high as it should be, but measures are being adopted in the way of stricter supervision, which, it may be hoped, will produce a more satisfactory state of things.

Judicial Stamps.

13. These stamps seem always to produce a more or less fluctuating revenue, resulting from probate and administration duties on estates of varying magnitude.

Fines, Forfeitures, and Fees of Court.

14. Under this heading are included fines in land cases, which, with other cases, stand as follows for 1882 and the three preceding years:—

—	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.
	$	$	$	$
Land cases - - -	535	1,293	1,166	895
Other cases - - -	2,858	4,071	4,729	3,308

REIMBURSEMENTS.

15. Under the above heading are included the municipal police contribution and survey fees, together with certain petty land items. The figures are as follows:—

—	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.
	$	$	$	$
Survey fees - - -	9,025	4,128	3,390	221
Municipal contribution - -	3,600	3,600	3,600	3,600
Other items - - -	604	512	1,007	910
	13,229	8,240	7,997	4,731

Falling off in Survey Fees.

16. The great falling off in the survey fees is due to the employment of contract surveyors, and to the small area otherwise granted in leases.

OTHER ITEMS OF REVENUE.

17. The remaining items of revenue, viz., rents, exclusive of lands, port and harbour dues, postage, fees of office, sale of

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Government property, miscellaneous, and special, produced aggregate amounts as under :—

	$
1879 - - -	3,302
1880 - - -	4,165
1881 - - -	5,679
1882 - - -	4,767

Increase.—Postal Revenue.

18. Of these, the steady increase in the postal revenue, as shown by the following figures, is worthy of notice :—

	$
1879 - - -	791
1880 - - -	907
1881 - - -	990
1882 - - -	1,211

Expenditure.

19. The establishments for 1881 and 1882 stand respectively as follows :—

	$
1881 - - -	84,660
1882 - - -	85,403

20. The following figures give the annual expenditure on Public Works from 1879 to 1882 :—

—	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.
	$	$	$	$
Works and buildings - -	23,231	16,813	12,086	42,221
Roads, streets, and bridges -	20,294	27,680	22,394	43,953

WORKS AND BUILDINGS.

Central Police Stations.

21. The chief item of expenditure in works and buildings was $24,644 for the conversion of the old military buildings into a central police station, which has been a very satisfactory work.

Police Stations, &c.

22. The various police stations and barracks referred to in para. 72 were constructed at a total expenditure of $6,579,—the barracks at Mâchap, which were begun in 1881, not having been completed till 1882. The other items call for no remark.

ROADS, STREETS, AND BRIDGES.

Departmental System.

23. The departmental system of working the roads has had satisfactory results, but there is still room for improvement to be obtained by closer supervision. Heavy rollers are much needed for the main roads, for each of which there should be one.

General Up-keep.

24. On the general up-keep this year, $29,995 were spent.

Nyâlas Road.

25. The road from Nyâlas to Bâtang Malaka was re-formed and raised, a much needed work, at a cost of $3,913.

Sungei Rambei Road.

26. So also was the Sungei Rambei road, much to the satisfaction of the people of that district. This work included some bridges, and was completed for $3,994.

Drainage, &c.

27. On the drainage and clearing of rivers, canals, and ditches, $2,495 were expended, but a much larger sum could have been spent with beneficial results to padi planters.

28. It is a question, however, whether prescriptive holders should uot be compelled to do this work themselves as one of the conditions attached to their tenure of their lands.

MUNICIPAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

29. The progress of the municipality may be judged of by the figures below:—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	$	$
1879	17,528	16,791
1880	22,429	18,899
1881	25,054	21,462
1882	25,444	30,107

Excess in Expenditure.

The expenditure for the past year exceeded the revenue, but this was met out of the balances, the year being begun with a balance of $8,524, which, by the end of the year, was reduced to $3,861.

Special Expenditure.

30. Of the excess in expenditure, $2,439 was special, being devoted as follows:—

	$
Cholera epidemic - - -	1,492
Purchase of new cemetery - -	947
	2,439

Land Assessment of Five per cent.

31. An addition to the revenue is looked for from the extension off the five per cent. assessment on lands throughout the Settlement.

Town Drainage.

32. The drainage of the town greatly needs improvement, and some steps have been taken with that object, which, it is hoped, may, in course of time, have some result.

Need of Waterworks.

33. The construction of waterworks will, no doubt, greatly contribute to the healthiness of the town. During the drought last year, water was being sold at 3 cents a pail, and one resident was paying $15 a month for water.

LAND.

Leases on Rent Roll.

34. The following figures give the leases on the rent roll up to the end of 1882, as compared with 1881:—

Leases borne on rent roll up to end of 1882.	Number.		Area.		Annual Rent.	
	1881.	1882.	1881.	1882.	1881.	1882.
					$	$
5 years - -	123	116	623	532	178	155
10 „ - -	334	387	88,705	93,550	51,737	52,994
15 „ - -	7	7	15	15	6	6
20 „ - -	3,215	3,212	12,606	12,549	3,974	3,875
99 „ - -	138	138	319	319	223	223
999 „ - -	191	200	1,791	1,957	491	554
Certificate of tenure in perpetuity of commuted tenths	60	77	175	258	49	88

Expired Leases.

35. The succeeding table gives the expired leases.

Expired Leases borne on rent roll 1882.	Number.		Area.		Rent.	
	1881.	1882.	1881.	1882.	1881.	1882.
					$	$
5 years - -	133	116	623	532	178	155
10 „ - -	134	127	11,018	11,740	2,379	2,964
15 „ - -	7	7	15	15	6	6

Weakness of Survey Department.

36. If the Survey Department had been stronger in its staff, more of these cases could have been dealt with.

CERTIFICATES OF TENURE.

Abolition of Tenths System.

37. The certificates of tenure under Ordinance XI. of 1876, which were advocated by my predecessor in his report for 1881 as being best suited for peasant holdings, might be made a compulsory substitute for the prescriptive form of holding without title, if it were decided to do away with the collection of tenths altogether.

Advantages.

38. Such a change would have many recommendations in its favour not merely the advantage of adding to the rent-roll, but of doing away with the temptations offered to everyone concerned in the collection of tenths.

No security for efficient Collection of Tenths.

39. At present there is no security whatever for the efficient collection of tenths even on padi, while that on fruit, considering the amount of cultivated land without title producing fruit, amounts at present to a merely nominal sum, but there is no doubt that it might be made so, by the establishment of a system of supervision which at present is conspicuous by its absence.

Appointment of District Collectors.

40. A collector should be appointed for the town and radius of ten miles, and the rest of the country might be divided between two district collectors, with a resident clerk and forest ranger under each of them.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

MALACCA.

Reduction in Number of Pĕnghûlus.

41. The number of Pĕnghûlus should be reduced to fifteen, five under each collector, and they and their Mâta-mâta should be paid salaries.

Would improve Revenue.

42. Such a system would soon make its mark on the revenue, not only in the collection of tenths, but, in conjunction with an adequate survey staff, in the issue of leases. It would also put a stop to encroachments.

43. If made general executive officers and magistrates the usefulness of these district officers would be much increased.

Timber.

44. Very little Malacca timber is used here, large quantities being supplied much cheaper by water from Sumatra than it can be brought by road in Malacca, and I am inclined to think that the value of timber here has been much over-rated.

Reserves.

45. If certain reserves are strictly kept, I do not think it is worth while to go to much expense in replanting.

Leases, classes of.

46. Tapioca leases are no longer issued, except in cases where they have been long promised, but the question will probably have to be considered again in connection with the division of leases into classes according to the object for which the land is required; pepper and gambier, for instance, are cultivations which last for thirty years, three times the period of tapioca under the present system of cultivation, nor does their cultivation require anything like the area used for tapioca.

47. It is not desirable to prevent these cultivations, merely because they are not so enduring as others; and with the improved supervision suggested, encroachments, which are the chief causes of difficulty, will be reduced to a minimum.

48. There would not seem to be any use in granting perpetual tenure in such cases, because after a certain period there would be no prospect of getting in the rent, and thus the question of dividing leases into classes, as formerly, again presents itself.

Leases issued last four years.

49. In the following table will be found the leases issued during the last four years.

Period.	1879.		1880.		1881.		1882.	
	No.	Area.	No.	Area.	No.	Area.	No.	Area.
10 years - - -	35	17,602	103	28,966	20	13,576	5	4,534
20 - - -	—	—	1	6	—	—	—	—
99 „ - - -	1	1	1	1	4	6	—	—
999 „ - - -	62	621	15	208	13	246	7	165
Land certificates - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	17	85
Total - -	98	18,224	120	29,181	37	13,828	29	4,784

Few Leases issued.

50. The small number of leases issued is chiefly due to the condition of the Survey Department by which the hands of the and office are paralysed.

Mode of Dealing with Malay Peasants.

51. I agree with my predecessor in his view (Administration report para. 35) that the Malay peasants should be given titles in perpetuity for their existing holdings, and that fresh land should be given to them for permanent cultivation, with no other charge than the cost of boundary stones in either case.

Decrease in receipts from Padi.

52. The anticipations of my predecessor that the receipts from padi would show a great falling off were realised, owing to a combination of unfavourable circumstances—the epidemic amongst the buffaloes, floods at the beginning of the season, and violent squalls of wind and prolonged drought towards the end.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

53. The value of imports and exports for the past four years is shown in the following table:—

—	Imports.	Exports.
1879 - - - -	2,718,343	2,770,123
1880 - - - -	3,317,848	3,634,640
1881 - - - -	3,664,230	3,919,431
1882 - - - -	4,082,136	4,074,041

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

MALACCA.

Chief Articles of Import and Export.

54. The succeeding figures show the varying values of the chief articles exported and imported during the last four years:—

		1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.
		$	$	$	$
Padi and Rice	Imports	525,963	586,688	651,263	768,808
	Exports	197,208	197,799	190,668	194,042
Tapioca	Imports	14,175	46,495	46,884	99,154
	Exports	521,832	844,238	925,748	889,531
Tin	Imports	1,140,943	1,164,335	1,512,164	1,670,560
	Exports	1,058,839	1,340,655	1,798,909	1,868,132
Opium	Imports	196,000	179,300	185,575	159,315
	Exports	162,000	150,150	146,085	151,354
Specie	Imports	572,255	1,003,059	908,680	961,730
	Exports	487,131	735,740	586,576	658,178
Fish	Imports	8,911	23,129	39,646	42,659
	Exports	5,881	5,163	51,961	41,699
Fruit	Imports	—	—	—	853
	Exports	9,084	5,976	6,716	3,988

Decreased Export of Rice.

55. From the foregoing table it will be seen that the export of rice has, during the past two years, sensibly diminished, while there has been a more than corresponding increase in the import, which is no doubt due to the decreased cultivation caused by the cattle epidemic and bad seasons both in this Settlement and the neighbouring States.

Decreased Export of Tapioca.

56. The falling off in the export of tapioca is to be accounted for by the failing of some planters consequent on the fall in price of tapioca, and the increase in the import by the increased production in Sungei Ujong.

Import and Export of Tin.

57. The difference between the import and export of tin may be taken to represent stock allowed to accumulate till prices improved. The amount produced by the Malacca mines was worth only about $3,500 if the tenths were properly collected.

Export of Fruit.

58. I do not think the fruit returns can be at all depended on for a large quantity goes to Singapore by boat from all parts of the

coast as well as straight off to steamers, and no doubt a large sum in tenths is lost, but under the present system it is impossible to check it.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES.

59. The following figures give the tonnage of the vessels which came to and left Malacca, and the countries whence they came and whither they were bound, for the years 1879–1882.

Countries.	1879. Tonnage. Arrivals.	1879. Tonnage. Departures.	1880. Tonnage. Arrivals.	1880. Tonnage. Departures.	1881. Tonnage. Arrivals.	1881. Tonnage. Departures.	1882. Tonnage. Arrivals.	1882. Tonnage. Departures.
Singapore - - -	94,565	76,912	84,111	91,425	103,280	95,152	99,931	97,068
Penang - - -	33,716	46,657	27,390	32,689	26,484	39,143	37,767	42,162
Malay States - -	19,109	24,660	26,292	26,605	32,488	32,741	35,469	37,086
Sumatra - - -	9,914	10,129	7,255	6,756	3,277	3,851	6,877	7,906
Calcutta - -	23,057	24,084	25,735	18,608	31,318	28,452	25,126	25,054
Other places - -	2,145	1,073	6,611	2,930	1,211	30	1,321	461

Excess of Departures over Arrivals.

60. From the statement* attached the excess of departures over arrivals amongst the native craft, to which my predecessor referred in his report for 1881 (paragraph 40), is still to be observed, but the matter has been taken up with satisfactory results.

POSTAL.

61. The Post office letter returns still show a steady increase as may be gathered from the figures below,

—	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.
Letters, &c., received - -	35,751	40,716	47,091	55,274
Do. despatched - -	26,208	29,124	34,114	42,124

The value of money orders, however, still remains stationary—

—	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.
	$	$	$	$
Money orders issued - -	2,204	2,129	2,716	2,605
Do. paid - -	3,256	1,243	1,022	1,207

* Not printed.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

MALACCA.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.

Police Magistrate.

62. The following tables show the number of prisoners brought before the Magistrate in the years 1879-1882.

—	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.
Committed in Supreme Court -	28	22	39	29
Convicted - - -	1,267	1,640	1,168	1,041
Ordered to give security - -	99	174	114	100
Discharged - - -	1,086	998	1,011	1,154
Not decided - -	22	58	11	76
	2,502	2,892	2,343	2,400

Supreme Court Criminal Cases.

63. Details of criminal cases tried in the Supreme Court will be found below:—

Number of cases -	- 31
Convictions - - -	- 20
Acquittals -	- 8
Nolle prosequi - - -	- 3

Convictions.

Offence.	Number of Prisoners.	Punishment.		
		Simple Imprisonment.	Rigorous Imprisonment.	Fine.
Attempted suicide - -	2	—	2	—
Theft (prior convictions) -	2	—	2	—
Mischief by fire - -	1	—	1	—
Culpable homicide - -	2	1	1	—
Forgery - - - -	3	—	3	—
Housebreaking and theft - -	1	—	1	—
Kidnapping - - -	3	—	3	—
Cheating - - - -	1	—	1	—
Giving false evidence - -	1	—	1	—
Theft - - - -	1	—	1	—
Gang robbery - - -	3	—	3	—
	20	1	19	—

Civil Cases.

64. Civil cases were as shown in following figures :

Number of cases heard.	Damages involved.	Settled.	Judgment for Defendant.	Damages for Plaintiff.
106	$ 33,308	20	10	$ 18,591

65. There were no bankruptcy cases.

66. There were 178 probate and administration cases, involving property to the amount of $138,305.

POLICE.

Inspectors.

67. Of the three Inspectors under the Superintendent, one is in charge of the town division and the rest of the country is divided between two others, who are constantly travelling through their districts, but not residing in them; and I think there are reasons of some weight, under existing conditions, in favour of this system, as against that of resident Inspectors.

Constables.

68. The force lost 42 constables during the year, 19 of whom were dismissed for misconduct, while 11 died of cholera, fever, small-pox and beri-beri ; 33 recruits joined the force.

69. In this Settlement the force is almost entirely composed of Malays, who are, on the whole, perhaps a better class of men than in the other Settlements.

Constables in the Hands of Money-lenders.

70. It is to be regretted that some means cannot be found of keeping them out of the clutches of the money-lenders.

Government Aid.

71. If Government would advance them sums, for any reasonable expenses, from the large police funds lying available, and deduct repayment by small instalments, from their pay, it would go far to relieve them from this bondage.

New Stations and Barracks.

72. At Kĕsang Inspectors' Quarters were constructed, at Kwāla Linggi and Pûlau Sĕbang new stations, and Barracks at Bukit China and Kûbu.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

MALACCA.

CORONER.

73. The Superintendent of Police as coroner held 57 inquests during the year and verdicts were returned as under :—

Murder - - - - -	2
Homicide - - - -	2
Felo-de-se - - - -	5
Accidental deaths - -	27
Natural causes - -	16
Open verdicts - - - -	5
	57

Murder Cases.

74 In the two cases of murder no clue to the offenders could be obtained.

Homicide Case.

75 In one case of homicide one of two offenders was sentenced to nine months' rigorous imprisonment in the Supreme Court and the other to six weeks' simple imprisonment; while in the other case the accused has not been found.

PRISONS.

Criminal.

76. The prisoners committed to the criminal prison during the year were :—

One month and under - - -	47
Two months - - - -	32
Three months - - - -	18
Six months - - - -	26
One year - - - -	5
Two years - - -	7
Three years - - - -	2
Four years - - - -	1
Ten years - - - -	3
	141

Proportion of Prisoners to Nationality.

77. Of the above, 76 were Chinese, 46 Malays, and 19 Indians, which, according to the last census, makes one in every 259 for the Chinese, one in every 1,467 for the Malays, and one in every 102 for the Indians.

Long-sentenced Prisoners.

78. Nineteen long-sentenced prisoners were transferred to Singapore, only the short-sentenced prisoners being kept here; but employment on public works could readily be found for a considerable number, for whom there is enough accommodation in the local prison.

Daily Average.

79. The daily average number of prisoners was 23·79.

Hospital Daily Average.

80. The daily average number in hospital was 1·24. There were no deaths.

Healthiness of Prison.

81. The good health of the prisoners is, no doubt, greatly contributed to by the cleanliness which is so carefully maintained by the Superintendent.

Escape of a Prisoner

82. There was one escape of a Chinese prisoner employed in public works, but he was re-arrested, and the constable through whose negligence he escaped was punished by the magistrate.

Civil.

83. In the civil prison were committed:

For safe custody - - -	163
For trial - - - -	25
Simple imprisonment - - -	20
Debtors - - - -	7
Lunatics - - - -	14
	230

Prison Staff.

84. The staff of the prison for the year consisted of the Superintendent, two European warders, a Portuguese sub-warder, and five Native warders.

CHINESE AND MALAY SOCIETIES.

Chinese.

85. The following figures show the numbers borne on the registers for the last four years, but not the number of actual

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

MALACCA.

members, as the names of those who cease to be members from various causes are not struck off.

	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.
Gi Hin - - -	1,380	1,778	2,549	3,281
Do., Macao - - -	282	282	344	404
Gi Bu - - - -	556	556	581	592
Hok Beng - - -	1,126	1,126	1,802	2,403
Hei San - - - -	156	357	440	504

Little trouble during the year.

85. There have been occasional effervescences among these societies during the year, but the action of the Superintendent of Police prevented their developing into anything worse.

New Society unsuccessful.

87. There was an attempt to form a mixed society of Bâbas and Malays, which was broken up after a six months' struggle by the opposition of the other societies.

Malay Flag Societies.

88. These societies, which have done a great deal of harm in the place, continue to exist, in spite of the law passed last year making them illegal, but the Ordinance has not been without effect, for it has kept them pretty quiet.

Affiliated to Chinese Societies.

89. These societies have strengthened their position by affiliating themselves to the Chinese Societies, but they are not, like them registered, and it is very difficult to get any information on which action could be taken under the Ordinance referred to. Perhaps a liberal use of secret service money might result advantageously, and if one or two heads of each flag could be secured and punished under the Ordinance, the societies would be crushed, and never revive to any purpose.

Against Mahomedan Law.

90. Although these societies are against Mahomedan law, Hajis of some position are frequently found holding the position of heads.

EDUCATION.

Average Enrolment.

91. The average enrolment of scholars in the Settlement during the last four years will be seen in the following table:—

—		1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.
High School	Boys	209	242	299	276
French Mission Schools—					
St. Francis	Boys	171	173	165	135
The Convent	Girls	70	80	100	70
Portuguese Mission Schools—					
Trankera	Boys	44	38	35	32
Banda Ilir	Boys	43	37	40	31
Banda Ilir	Girls	34	34	33	31
Malacca Girls' School		29	25	18	19
Vernacular Schools	Boys	582	637	636	796

Falling off of High School.

92. The slight falling off noticeable in the High School is attributed to small-pox prevalent in the first half of the year.

Vernacular Schools increasing.

93. The Vernacular Schools show a substantial increase, five schools having been opened during the year, and none closed. This increase promises to continue. The aid of the Pĕnghûlus has been enlisted by a slight remuneration for every boy added through their endeavours, but if the proposed scheme of paid Pĕnghûlus be adopted, this outlay will be rendered unnecessary.

HOSPITALS.

Number of Cases.

94. The figures below show the number of patients treated in the different hospitals during the year:—

—	General Hospital.	Lock Hospital.	Pauper Hospital.	Gaol Hospital.	Leper Shed.	Small-pox Hospital.	Total.
Remained from 1881	9	1	120	1	1	—	132
Admitted in 1882	277	32	1,170	51	3	6	1,539
Total	286	33	1,290	52	4	6	1,671
Discharged	254	33	881	48	—	2	1,218
Absconded	4	—	25	—	2	—	31
Transferred	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Died	17	—	269	—	1	4	291
Total	275	33	1,175	48	3	6	1,540
Remained at the close of 1882	11	—	115	4	1	—	131
							1,671

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

MALACCA.

Pauper Hospital Diseases.

95. The following were the principal diseases treated in the pauper hospital:—

—	Admissions.	Discharges.	Deaths.
Ague	59	58	2
Rheumatism	14	18	1
Syphilis	20	19	—
Phthisis	13	5	8
Cholera	77	12	65
Sloughing Phagedœna	55	3	45
Anœmia	18	19	1
General Dropsy	197	145	39
Beri-Beri	215	200	27
Paralysis	113	76	14
Dysentery	16	11	6
Diarrhœa	21	7	12
Abscess	14	12	1
Ulcer	155	175	—
General Debility	101	56	30
Other Diseases	82	65	18
Total	1,170	881	269

Pauper Patients, increasing Number.

96. The number of patients treated in the Pauper hospital in 1882 was 1,170, against 677 in 1881, an increase of 493; this may be attributed partly to the amount of sickness prevailing throughout the country, and partly to the benefits of the hospital becoming more widely known.

Percentage of Deaths.

97. The percentage of deaths was 20·97, including the cholera cases, but excluding them it would be reduced to 16·04.

Vaccination.

98. The Vaccination Returns for the last four years are as follows:—

—	Cases.	Successful.
1879	1,400	1,052
1880	1,870	1,561
1881	1,669	1,117
1882	1,400	1,016

Smaller number Vaccinated.

99. The Colonial Surgeon accounts for this falling off by the general sickness about the country which prevented numbers attending.

100. There is no doubt that there is more vaccination to be done in this Settlement than can be carried out by one man, and the appointment of an additional Vaccinator is necessary.

General Health of the Settlement.

101. The general health of the Settlement, apart from the cholera epidemic, was by no means good, as compared with 1881, as will be seen from the following figures:—

—	Diarrhœa and Dysentery.	Fever.	Small-pox.	Beri-Beri.	Other Causes.
1882 -	257	1,116	327	42	1,675
1881 -	179	899	23	6	1,037
Increase -	78	217	304	36	638

District Hospitals.

102. Though the scheme for District hospitals has been abandoned in favour of increased accommodation at the Pauper hospital to be erected near town, I am still in favour of one or two being constructed in central positions in the country for the treatment of fever, small-pox, and general cases, which will probably never reach the town; in the event of outbreaks of cholera, also, such establishments would be of considerable benefit to the country people.

Mortality from Fever.

103. It will be noticed that the mortality from fever is very large; various forms of this illness prevail, and it seems desirable that some step should be taken to deal with it.

Cholera.

104. The cholera epidemic returns give 513 as the number of deaths resulting from it, but I have little doubt that they by no means represent the real numbers.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

MALACCA.

105. The disease took a very virulent form. I heard of cases of deaths resulting in an hour or so after one vomit and purge, and of a different class of case altogether which was called the same name by the natives, but took the form of intense oppression at the chest followed by collapse in a very short time; I heard of many such cases, and some of them were said to be relieved by bleeding from the arm, near the wrist, provided it was done at the very outset. With few exceptions, only the lower classes were attacked, and no European. Eighty-four cases were treated in hospital, and only thirteen recovered.

106. The epidemic lasted five or six months.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS.

107 The following figures give the births and deaths in the last two years.

—	Births.	Deaths.
1881 - - - -	2,100	1,244
1882 - - - -	1,896	3,930

Registration of Births incomplete.

108. The registration of births is, no doubt, not as complete as it should be, but there are obstacles in the way, in the town, which are very difficult to get over.

METEOROLOGICAL.

Amount of Rain during Cholera Epidemic.

109. From the return* attached it will be seen that the total rainfall for the year was 66·19 inches, about 30 inches below the average, I believe. During the months when the cholera prevailed the rainfall was as under:—

	Inches.
March - - - -	2·57
April - - - -	4·40
May - - - - -	2·36
June - - - - -	3·73
July - - - - -	2·92

so that in those five months the rainfall was rather less than a quarter of that which fell in the year.

* Not printed.

Prevailing Direction of the Wind.

110. The prevailing direction of the wind for the first eight months of the year was north-east, which is abnormal; in ordinary years there should be a change in April to south-west, and in July to west and sometimes north-west, which lasts till December, when it turns north-east again.

Area of Meteorological Observation.

111. Meteorological observation in this Settlement is confined to the hospital in the town, but its area might be considerably extended if district collectors are appointed, as they could take observations. District hospitals would also afford additional sites for recording observations.

(Signed) D. F. A. HERVEY,
Resident Councillor.

Resident Councillor's Office,
Malacca, 18th June 1883.

MAURITIUS.

No. 17.

REPORT on the MAURITIUS BLUE BOOK for 1882.

1.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The revenue of the year 1882 amounted to Rs. 9,551,635; the expenditure to Rs. 8,280,107; the excess of revenue over expenditure was Rs. 1,271,527.

The revenue of 1882 exceeded that of 1881 by Rs. 1,737,725. The increae of expenditure of 1882 over 1881 was Rs. 679,931.

The increased revenue was derived chiefly from the following sources:—

	Rs.	
Customs - - - -	120,080	increase
Registration and mortgage dues -	396,483	„
Licenses and permits - - -	259,302	„
Miscellaneous receipts - - -	739,640	„
Railway - - - -	151,160	„

Of the increased revenue from customs Rs. 40,218 were derived from an additional export duty levied on sugar for woods and forests purposes; the registration and mortgage dues were increased by the formation of many limited liability sugar estates and other companies; a larger consumption of rum raised the receipts from permits; miscellaneous receipts included 74,176*l.* carried to account by the Crown agents from released sinking fund; the increased receipts of the railway were chiefly

MAURITIUS. due to a large sugar crop. The expenditure of the year included Rs. 532,512 transferred to the woods and forests fund from released sinking fund; a sum of Rs. 187,286 to cover the cost of exchange in remitting funds to meet the payments on account of interest and sinking fund on the debenture debt; and a sum of Rs. 117,090 due to the railway sinking fund in July 1881 but paid in 1882.

II.—ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

(a) *Treasury proper.*

(Exclusive of Commissioners of Currency, Savings' Bank, Curatelle and Railway Debt.)

	Rs.
Liabilities - - - -	961,153
Assets - - -	4,879,065

Showing a balance of Rs. 3,917,912 as compared with a balance of Rs. 2,181,559 at the end of 1881.

(b) *Commissioners of Currency.*

The assets of the Commissioners of Currency consisted of:—

	Rs.
Specie reserve - - -	2,198,100
Invested in England, and in the hands of Crown Agents - - -	1,900,698
	4,098,798
The currency notes in circulation at the end of the year were of the value of - - - -	3,742,410

This shows a balance of Rs. 356,388 in favour of the Commissioners.

(c) *Savings Bank.*

The total amount due to depositors, including interest, was Rs. 3,096,938.

The assets were as follows:—

	Rs.
Loans secured on real property in Mauritius - - - -	14,215
Invested in England - - -	2,442,999
Cash balances - - -	639,724
	3,096,938

(d) *Curatelle.*

Liabilities:—

		Rs.
Deposits, including interest	-	409,504

Assets:—

	Rs.	
Loans secured on real property in Mauritius	9,883	
Local cash balances -	178,256	
Invested in England -	221,365	
		409,504

(e) *Railway Debt.*

The Railway Debenture Debt on the 31st of December amounted to 698,100*l.*, against which Government held a sinking fund of 13,601*l.*

III.—MUNICIPAL CORPORATION.

The revenue for the year 1882 amounted to Rs. 403,285 and the expenditure to Rs. 385,657 as compared with a revenue of Rs. 391,174 and an expenditure of Rs. 457,405 in 1881. The expenditure in 1881, however, included a sum of Rs. 58,800 on account of reimbursement of debentures. The debenture debt of the corporation on the 31st of December 1882 amounted to 150,934*l.*, against which there was held a sinking fund of Rs. 239,690.

IV.—MILITARY EXPENDITURE.

The amount contributed by the Colony towards Military Expenditure in 1882 was Rs. 225,814, showing an apparent excess over the previous year of Rs. 59,904, but 15 months' contribution was paid in 1882.

The troops in the Colony on the 31st of December were:—

Staff - - - - -	10
Artillery - - - - -	100
Engineers - - - - -	11
Infantry - - - - -	345
Ordinary Store Corps - - -	2
Army Hospital do. - - -	8
	476

The Imperial Military Expenditure amounted to Rs. 429,496.

V.—TRADE.

The value of exports and imports in 1881 and 1882 respectively was as follows:—

	1882.	1881.
	Rs.	Rs.
Exports—		
Merchandise - - - -	39,304,533	34,776,608
Specie and bullion - - -	668,907	749,464
Imports—		
Merchandise - - - -	27,697,959	20,299,712
Specie and bullion - - -	416,427	4,372,953
	68,087,826	60,198,737

The rate of exports and imports per head of population compared with the previous year was:—

	Exports.	Imports.
	Rs.	Rs.
1881 - - - - -	98·84	68·64
1882 - - - - - -	111·24	78·24

In the returns for 1882 the value of exports is the cost delivered on board the outward-bound ship; the value of imports is the cost on arrival of the ship at the Bell Buoy, including freight, exchange, and other charges. The returns of previous years were based on the invoice value of the goods at the ports of shipment, without any extra charges. Although the trade returns of 1881 are here, given any comparison is necessarily difficult and unsatisfactory.

In addition to the specie included in the above table, Indians returning to India took with them specie to the declared value of Rs. 159,494.

The quantity and value of Mauritius sugar exported during the last two years were:—

	Kilos.	Rupees.	Rate p. 50 kilos.
			Rs.
1881 - - -	110,538,894	31,468,687	14·23
1882 - - -	117,124,065	34,781,265	14·84

The value of Mauritius rum exported was Rs. 806,330; of aloe fibre Rs. 471,101; and of vanilla Rs. 380,997.

The Customs receipts of the year amounted to Rs. 2,733,527 as compared with Rs. 2,615,313 in 1881.

Shipping.

The number and tonnage of vessels entered and cleared as compared with 1881 was:—

Year.	Entered.		Cleared.	
	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Vessels.	Tonnage.
1881 - -	645	274,702	645	273,934
1882 - -	614	275,869	625	275,869

VI.—Population and Public Health.

The estimated resident population on the 31st of December was 359,322, exclusive of the military (whose returns indicate an average strength for the year of 450) and exclusive of the shipping not belonging to the Colony. The general population numbered 112,501 and the Indian population 246,821. The number of Chinese of pure descent included in the general population is estimated at 3,797. As compared with the estimated population at the end of 1881 there was a decrease of 97. There was an increase of 707 in the general population, of whom 132 were additions to the Chinese community, but in the Indian population there was a decrease of 804, owing to an excess of departures over arrivals among male Indians. The female Indian population showed an increase of 691. The population shows a density of 507 persons to each square mile. Recent reforms and the efforts of Government to remove impediments to marriage and legitimation, as well as to facilitate the procedure of the civil status offices, have had satisfactory results. The number of marriages celebrated by the civil status during 1882 was 2,061; 927 in the general and 1,134 in the Indian population, showing an increase of 257 over 1881.

The births registered in the whole Colony in 1882 amounted to 12,955; the deaths to 12,563. In the district of Port Louis, however, the deaths exceeded the births by 684, in Pamplemousses by 114, in Grand Port by 802, and in Black River by 44. The number of still-births showed a general increase throughout the Island, but especially in the districts of Port Louis and Grand Port. The cause of this, as well as of the considerable increase of deaths in child-birth, is no doubt to be found in the debilitation of the mothers by the fever which was unusually virulent in the districts of Port Louis and Grand Port, and assumed an epidemic form during a portion of the year in the latter district. To judge from the number of deaths registered in 1882 the Island has not been so unhealthy since 1868, the year succeeding the great fever

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epidemic. The death rate of the total population was 34·9 per thousand; among the general population it was 36·7, and among the Indian population 34·1. On sugar estates it was 31·3 per thousand. Notwithstanding the epidemic of fever at Grand Port, where the mortality for the months of May and June was equivalent to a death rate of 106 per thousand for the whole year, Port Louis retained in 1882 its notoriety for insalubrity, the death rate at Grand Port for the whole year being at the rate of 46·8 per thousand against 46·9 in Port Louis. Important general regulations were published during the year for the management of public hospitals and dispensaries; for the sanitary improvement of the town and district of Port Louis. Regulations were also made to prevent the spread of contagious diseases among cattle.

VII.—CRIMINAL JUSTICE.

The number of offences reported to the police or to the magistrates was 27,606 as against 32,472 in 1881; the number of persons prosecuted was 23,729 as against 23,745 in 1881. The remarkable disproportion between the number of offences known to have been committed and the number of persons brought to justice was thus largely reduced.

The number of convictions was as follows:—

For offences against the person - -	830
For offences against property - -	1,433
For miscellaneous offences - -	14,803

Two persons were tried for murder, sentenced to death, and executed. The crimes of murder and manslaughter were much less frequent than in the preceding year, but robberies with violence were remarkably numerous. It is worthy of remark that of 14,607 persons committed in district courts no less than 11,837 were committed for offences against the laws relating to revenue, highways, health, and other laws relating to social economy of the Colony.

VIII.—GAOLS AND PRISONERS.

The total number of persons committed to prison was 7,270 as against 9,539 in 1881. Of these 29 were committed for debt, 3,091 for non-payment of fines and costs, and 802 for safe custody till trial for want of bail.

Of 3,299 prisoners committed to penal imprisonment 2,684 were committed for three months or less and 506 others for less than a year. There were 131 committals for one year or more but less than five years, and 27 for periods of five years or more. Of the total number of persons committed, 1,259 were committed for vagrancy and 49 boys were sent to the reformatory. The daily average number in prison was 1,329, and the daily average on the sick list 107. The number of punishments inflicted for offences committed in prison was 3,076; the number of floggings 64. In 1881 the number of punishments was 6,519; the number of floggings 86.

IX.—ECCLESIASTICAL.

From the census returns of 1881, reprinted in the Blue Book, it is impossible to arrive at an accurate estimate of the adherents of the churches supported by Government. Dividing the Christian community broadly between Roman Catholics and Protestants it may be said that in Mauritius (exclusive of the Dependencies) the Roman Catholic Church numbers about 108,000, whilst the number of Protestants is about 8,000.

The expenditure in 1882 in aid of these churches was as follows:—

	Establishment.	Stipends as Grant-in-aid.	For Mission.	Building Grants.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Roman Catholic Church - -	65,307	3,571	4,910	6,650	80,438
Protestants. Church of England -	31,084	2,642	5,910	2,800	42,436
Protestants. Presbyterian	2,500	2,535	180	350	5,565

Dependencies.

From the census returns it appears that there are in the Dependencies about 13,300 Roman Catholics and 3,000 Protestants. The Roman Catholic Church received in 1882 from Seychelles funds Rs. 5,000, and from the Government of Mauritius on account of Rodrigues Rs. 2,000. The Church of England received from Seychelles funds Rs. 3,750. It appears, therefore, that the total number of Roman Catholics in Mauritius and its Dependencies is about 121,000 and the number of Protestants 11,000. The Roman Catholic Church received in 1882 grants to the amount of Rs. 87,438, the Protestant churches Rs. 51,751.

X.—EDUCATION.

The average number of pupils on the roll of schools supported or aided by Government was:—

1882—*Average No. on Roll.*

Royal College - - - -	554
47 Government schools - - -	6,571
58 Aided schools - - - -	5,316
	12,441

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The total expenditure of Government on education in 1882 was as follows (omitting fractions of a rupee):—

	Rs.
Royal College - - - -	180,033
Government schools - - -	136,829
Aided schools - - - -	42,676
Administration (Government and aided schools) - - - -	19,569
Industrial education - - -	2,043
	381,220

The revenue fees and sale of books was:—

		Rs.
Royal college -	Fees - -	52,631
	Sale of books -	4,691
Government schools	Fees - -	6,010
	Sale of books -	6,419

Deducting revenue the following approximate results are obtained:—

——	Average No. of pupils on roll.	Expenditure.	Cost per head.
		Rs.	Rs.
Royal College - - -	554	122,711	220
Government schools - -	6,571	124,400	18
Aided schools - - -	5,316	42,746	8

The cost of administration is greater in Government than in aided schools, but as it is easy to fix the proportion it has been omitted.

The attendance in aided schools and the grants earned are shown in the following table:—

——	Schools.	Scholars.	Grants.
			Rs.
Roman Catholic schools - -	41	4,189	33,451
Church of England schools -	15	871	7,254
Presbyterian Mission schools -	2	256	1,940

A revised code of regulations for grant-in-aid schools was passed during the year.

XI.—IMMIGRATION.

The number of immigrants introduced during the year was 1,239, of whom 698 only were adult males. The number of Indians who emigrated to India was 2,328, of whom 1,538 were adult males. The agents of the Colony in India being unable to comply with the requisitions made upon them, orders for 4,183 male labourers remained unsatisfied at the end of the year. The difficulties in the way of obtaining labourers in India are ascribed chiefly to the competition of other Colonies; the difficulty of chartering vessels caused partly by the loss of time and money involved by the operation of the quarantine laws; and the difficulty experienced in getting the per-centage of women required by the Labour Law. Owing to the scarcity of labourers many estates were unable to realise the full value of their sugar crops. The total number of labourers and their families on estates on the 30th of June 1882 was 133,309 compared with 140,766 in 1881 and 145,069 in 1880. The number of the working population on estates was 62,864 as compared with 66,411 in 1881 and 69,534 in 1880. The mortality on sugar estates though high was lower than the death-rate of the general population. The amount of savings declared by Indian Emigrants from the Colony was Rs. 251,654 against Rs. 172,653 in 1881.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The expenditure of the year on account of works and buildings was Rs. 525,247, and on account of roads and bridges Rs. 148, 571. The expenditure on works and buildings exceeded that of 1881 by Rs. 227,795, the increase being chiefly due to the repairs of Government House, Reduit, and the construction of new dormitories for the Lunatic Asylum. The new building for the Colonial Institute and Museum was roofed in and the galleries completed.

Surevy of Crown Lands.

Surveys were made for the Woods and Forests Board and Forest Lands Purchase Commission of properties, including an area of 7,374 arpents. These surveys, in addition to boundaries, show the mountain and river reserves, the portions under different kinds of cultivation, the degree of woodedness and the parts denuded of timber.

Iu addition 1,289 arpents of Crown lands proper were surveyed, and 27½ miles of mountain reserve lines were defined.

XIII.—WOODS AND FORESTS.

Under Ordinance 10 of 1881, "To make better provision for "the conservation, restoration, and management of woods and "forests," lands covering an area of 5,536 arpents were finally

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acquired during 1882 at a cost of Rs. 668,425. The area of lands under the control of the Director of Woods and Forests amounts to 33,318 arpents, equal to 54⅓ English square miles, or about 7·7 per cent. of the total area of the Island. The number of young trees planted out in Government forests during the year was 186,800, and seeds were sown *in situ* at 113,200 places. In addition 113 kilos. of seed were sown in the Powder Mills and Bellevue plantations. The area of plantations for sanitary purposes is about 1,300 arpents, which yielded a revenue of Rs. 3,372 from the sale of firewood and permits to cut grass. On this area 50,000 trees were planted and 993 kilos. of seed were sown. The cinchona experimental plantation contained at the end of the year 3,276 thriving plants. The number of Eucalyti plants distributed from the Reduit Nursery Garden was 86,300, of which 24,200 were distributed gratuitously to the public.

XIV.—RAILWAY.

Summary of Revenue and Expenditure.

	Estimated 1882.	Actual 1882.	Actual 1881.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
North Line - - -	370,000	336,300	334,515
Midland Line - - -	925,000	939,828	861,925
Savanne „ - - -	141,000	160,696	137,040
Moka „ - - -	112,000	155,562	97,137
Miscellaneous - - -	25,000	47,927	40,210
Total - - -	1,573,000	1,640,313	1,470,197
Working expenditure - -	1,067,730	1,015,014	1,019,260
Net receipts - - -	505,270	625,299	450,947
Per-centage of revenue (working expenditure) - - -	68·00	61·88	69·33

The above represents the earnings of the railway during the years specified. The actual receipts were as follows:—

	Rs.
1882 - - - - -	1,609,137
1881 - - - - -	1,457,977

Owing to an error, about Rs. 45,000 worth of coal consumed in 1882 was paid for in 1883, and this amount should be added to the working expenses to arrive at a correct estimate of the profits of the railway. The line from Quartier Militaire to Montagne Blanche completing a distance of 15 miles on the Moka Branch was opened on the 6th June 1882. No injury of any kind occurred to any passenger travelling by the railway.

XV.—POST OFFICE.

The following table shows the number of letters, postcards, and newspapers received and despatched during the year 1882 :—

——	Letters.	Postcards.	Newspapers.
Inland Post - - -	569,245	11,283	431,324
Mail Steamers - - -	200,452	107	332,922
Private Ships and Steamers -	57,971	—	50,606
	827,668	11,390	814,852

Showing the following increase as compared with 1881 :—

——	Letters.	Postcards.	Newspapers.
1881 - - - -	767,940	8,929	751,283
1882 - - - -	827,668	11,390	814,852
Increase - -	59,728	2,461	63,569

The average number of letters and newspapers received and despatched by each monthly mail steamer during 1882 was :—

——	Letters.	Newspapers.
Received - - - - -	7,264	15,261
Despatched - - - - -	8,154	10,347

Money Orders.

The total number and value of money orders issued and paid in 1882 as compared with 1881 were as follows :—

——	1881.		1882.	
	Number.	Value.	Number.	Value.
		Rs.		Rs.
Issued - - -	1,514	53,797	2,014	58,890
Paid - - -	1,003	31,312	1,400	78,306

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The following statement shows the number and value of money orders issued on and received from the under-mentioned places out of the Island during the year 1882:—

Places.	Issued on		Received from	
	No.	Value.	No.	Value.
		Rs.		Rs.
United Kingdom -	844	33,034	55	1,203
India - - -	221	9,477	21	1,165
Aden - - -	1	3	317	46,604
Seychelles - -	8	171	77	2,663
Rodrigues - -	5	207	201	9,189

The total expenditure of the Post Office was Rs. 122,561 against Rs. 120,231 in 1881. The gross revenue collected was Rs. 71,403 against Rs. 69,636 in 1881.

Telegraphs.

The number of messages transmitted was as follows:—

	1881.	1882.
Train signals - - - -	53,485	17,760
Railway messages - - - -	9,118	12,416
Messages on telegraph service - -	1,127	1,172
Paid messages sent by public - -	17,937	22,703
Messages from Government departments -	4,301	4,990
	85,968	59,041

The gross revenue of the telegraph office was Rs. 16,962 against Rs. 13,424 in 1881. The net revenue (cash actually collected for messages sent by the public) Rs. 13,329 against Rs. 10,562 57 in 1881.

XIV.—SAVINGS BANK.

The total number of depositors, total amount in deposit, and average amount held by each depositor at the close of the years 1881 and 1882 are thus shown:—

Years.	No. of Depositors.	Amount in Deposit.	Average amount held by each Depositor.
		Rs.	Rs.
1881 - - -	14,548	2,836,319	194
1882 - - -	15,450	3,096,938	200
Increase in 1882 - -	902	260,619	6

The number of depositors belonging to the general population and to the Indian population respectively, and the amount standing to the credit of each class of the population at the end of the years 1881 and 1882, were as follows:—

	1881.		1882.	
	No. of Depositors.	Amount.	No. of Depositors.	Amount.
		Rs.		Rs.
General Population -	7,631	1,378,383	8,173	1,496,811
Indian „ -	6,917	1,457,936	7,277	1,600,127

The total amount deposited in 1882 was Rs. 1,247,962 and the amount withdrawn Rs. 1,086,829, showing an increase of deposits over withdrawals of Rs. 161,133. The interest accruing to depositors during the year was Rs. 99,486. The total amount standing to the credit of depositors at the end of the year thus shows an increase of Rs. 260,619. The interest realised on investments showed a profit to Government of Rs. 2,621 over the interest accruing to depositors, and deducting this amount from the total cost to Government of the bank (Rs. 10,600) the net cost of the bank in 1882 amounted to Rs. 7,978. The net cost of the bank in 1881 was Rs. 38,082.

XVII.—OBSERVATORY.

No hurricane visited the Colony during the year though several cyclones passed at various distances. The rainfall of the year was 56·06 inches against an average of 48·88 inches. The mean temperature was 74°; the highest 86° on the 21st of January and the lowest 58° on the 29th June. The mean height of the barometer was 30·079: the highest reading was 30·367 on the 1st of July and the lowest 29·627 on the 8th of February. Daily synoptic charts of the Indian Ocean were constructed for January, February, March, April, and September. Photographs of the sun were taken daily when the weather permitted. Sun-spots increased much in frequency, number, and magnitude. The year was also remarkable for magnetic storms. The greatest occurred on the 17th and 20th of April and on the 17th and 20th of November. On these occasions there were unusually large spots on the sun. The transit of Venus (December 6th) was successfully observed by Dr. Meldrum, and especially as regards the first contact. A report of the observations was transmitted to the President of the British Committee, by whom they were considered of superior importance.

XVIII.—LEGISLATION.

The financial legislation of the year included an Ordinance to raise the excise duty on colonial spirits and protect Government from the loss of revenue which it had suffered under previous laws;

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an Ordinance to amend the license laws with regard to game, milliners, and washermen's licenses; an Ordinance to reduce the license duties affecting the poorer classes of the community; an Ordinance to enable Government to derive revenue from the lease of shooting and fishing rights on land belonging to it; and an Ordinance to replace harbour dues levied in respect of the draught of vessels by tonnage dues. The Curatelle Ordinance consolidates and amends previous laws, and enables the curator of vacant estates to levy a commission of 5 per cent. on all moneys and on the estimated value of all property taken possession of by him, together with a further commission of one per cent. per annum on all property other than moneys remaining in his possession for more than one year. Ordinances were also passed for the levying of dues on vessels passing the Minicoy Islands lighthouse and the Basses lights.

Affecting the administration of justice were the Bankruptcy Ordinance; Winding up Ordinance; Ordinances relating to the district and stipendiary courts; and an important Ordinance (17 of 1882) to amend the law concerning prisons and penalties.

Among the 46 Ordinances passed during the year the more important, in addition to those already mentioned, were an Ordinance to encourage irrigation; an Ordinance to remove impediments to marriage and legitimation; an Ordinance to amend the law on divorce; Ordinances for the better care of lunatics and lepers; and an Ordinance to enlarge the powers of the Board of Civil Commissioners of the Seychelles Islands and the jurisdiction of the district court of those islands.

XIX.—DEPENDENCIES.

(a) *Seychelles.*

The Seychelles Blue Book Report for 1882 is submitted herewith.

(b) *Rodrigues.*

The receipts of the year as furnished by the Auditor General amounted to Rs. 9,697 against Rs. 11,000 in 1881; the expenditure to Rs. 24,498 against Rs. 20,592 in 1881. If we add to the receipts the Customs dues levied in Mauritius on goods imported for Rodrigues, which amounted to Rs. 12,235 in 1881 and Rs. 8,447 in 1882, the total revenue for 1882 will amount to Rs. 18,144 against Rs. 23,235 in 1881. The imports of this Dependency were of the value of Rs. 64,989 in 1882 against Rs. 92,871 in 1881, and the imports showed Rs. 93,108 against Rs. 159,540 in 1882. The Civil Commissioner attributes this falling off of imports and exports to the superior trading facilities offered by the visits of several vessels to the islands to procure bullocks in 1881 whereas in 1882 only one vessel made trading trips to the place. During the year a new bridge was built across the mouth of Port Mathurin River; a new police station was commenced and a new school erected and opened at Gabriel. The two schools of Port Mathurin and Gabriel had an average

number on roll of 130 children. The population at the end of the year was estimated at 1,546, and assuming the children of school-going age to comprise 15 per cent. of the community there are probably about 230 such children in the island, of whom it appears therefore that more than half attend school. There were 88 births during the year against 18 deaths. The rate of mortality was 1·2 per cent., the deaths being mostly from old age and infantile diseases.

The principal civil officer of the island received last year the designation of Civil Commissioner and Police Magistrate, and in October an Ordinance was passed by the Legislative Council of Mauritius to enlarge his powers and jurisdiction. Several regulations for the better government of this Island were made under Ordinance 3 of 1881. The Civil Commissioner in his report for the year repeats a suggestion which he had already made in 1879, that long-sentenced prisoners might with advantage be transferred from Mauritius to Rodrigues and employed in the construction of roads and other useful public works, time-expired convicts being allowed to settle on advantageous terms.

(b) *Smaller Dependencies.*

The dependencies of Agalega, Solomon and Eagle Islands were visited by the magistrate during the year.

CHAS. BRUCE,
Colonial Secretary.

Port Louis,
September 29, 1883.

SEYCHELLES.

No. 18.

REPORT on the SEYCHELLES BLUE BOOK RETURNS for 1882.

Revenue and Expenditure of the Dependency.

The gross receipts in 1882 amounted to Rs. 147,124, Rs. 8,918 above those of 1881. The aggregate payments* were Rs. 184,563, being Rs. 24,645 less than those of the year before. The net Revenue of 1882 was Rs. 137,635, showing an increase compared with that of 1881 of Rs. 7,926. The payments, exclusive of matters of account, were Rs. 128,831, or Rs. 15,694 below those of 1881.

Exports and Imports.

The imports, exclusive of specie, amounted to Rs. 320,686, or Rs. 14,710 above the amount in 1881, but the exports fell

* This amount, however, does not include the payments made by Mauritius on account of Seychelles to the Crown Agents for the last quarter of 1882, the account current for which has not yet been received.

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considerably below those of the new year before, reaching only Rs. 284,969 as compared with Rs. 321,245 in 1881.

The amount of specie exported was Rs. 38,175.

The quantity of cocoanut oil exported was gallons 252,329, and its value Rs. 153,770.

I annex a statement of the quantity and value of this product exported during the previous eight years, in order to exhibit the fluctuating character of the yield and the variations of price :—

Year.	Quantity.	Value.
	Gallons.	Rs.
1874 - - - -	242,350	259,738
1875 - - - -	217,350	234,473
1876 - - - -	284,962	307,768
1877 - - - -	270,792	365,572
1878 - - - -	291,090	356,920
1879 - - - -	266,577	288,770
1880 - - - -	304,016	304,016
1881 - - - -	263,488	160,568
1882 - - - -	252,329	153,770

Shipping.

During 1882, the number of merchant vessels entering Port Victoria was 58, with an aggregate tonnage of 47,505 tons. Fifty-three vessels, with a tonnage of 41,635 tons, cleared from this port during the year. In 1881, 76 vessels entered the port, with an aggregate tonnage of 52,121 tons.

In 1882, five English, one Italian, and four French men-of-war visited Seychelles. In all 10 ships of war, as compared with 15 in 1881, and 22 in 1880; of which seven in 1881 and 14 in 1880 were British.

Civil Status.

The birth-rate per thousand during the year was 32·4; considerably lower than that of 1881, which was 35·37, but higher than that of 1880. The number of still-births in 1882 was less by eight than in the previous year. The still-birth rate was 6·9 per cent. on the total number of births.

The death-rate showed an increase as compared with that of 1881, being 21·6 to 17·96. This was chiefly owing to an unusual mortality among children, caused by the great prevalence of whooping-cough and dysentery during the latter part of the year.

Education.

During last year 14 schools were examined with satisfactory results.

Eight of these schools are under the management of the Roman Catholic Mission, and are attended by 849 pupils; whilst six are under the control of the Church of England, and are attended by 329 pupils.

The total number of children at grant-in-aid schools is 221 in excess of the previous year.

The sum of Rs. 6,000, the same amount as in 1881, was awarded as grants-in-aid in the following proportions :—

Roman Catholic Schools Rs. 4,310.

Church of England Schools Rs. 1,689.

Judicial Statistics.

The total number of criminal cases entered during the year was 589. The number of persons convicted was 517, and 89 were discharged.

In 1881, 489 were convicted and 178 discharged.

There were 27 convictions for larceny, and 22 for possession of stolen property.

The most numerous offences were disturbance (151 cases), drunkenness (52 cases), and contraventions of various kinds. One conviction for "wounds and blows causing death" took place during the year, and there was one conviction for rape.

The civil cases numbered 148, and the stipendiary cases (under the labour laws) 152.

Gaols.

The total number of persons committed to gaol in 1882 was 953. 129 of the committals were under penal sentence: the remainder were for non-payment of fines and costs, and for safe custody pending trial. Of the sentences, one was for over five years, 23 for over one year, and 31 for over three months, the rest being under this period.

There were 19 admissions to hospital from the gaol, and one death.

Public Hospital.

The number of persons admitted as patients to the public Hospital in 1882 was 113; 24 less than in 1881.

The deaths in the hospital in 1882 were 4, as compared with 15 the year previous. The number in 1881 was increased by the deaths of two seamen and three coolies, who were landed in a very sickly state; but allowing for these, it was still six above that of 1882.

There were only 2,530 dispensary-patients, as compared with 4,180 the year before; the diminution in the number being effected by the introduction of the system of certificates alluded to in my last year's report.

The fees in 1882 amounted to Rs. 1,218, and the costs of rations to Rs. 1,909.

Agriculture.

The annexed table shows the increase in the cultivation of vanilla and cacao in Mahé since 1881. It gives also the yield of those products, and of cloves during 1881 and 1882, and that anticipated in the present year.

SEYCHELLES.

The statement has been prepared with great care by the Warden of Mahé after a thorough inspection of the wards of North and South Mahé and Silhouette, and may be fully relied on.

Vanilla.

Acres at commencement of 1881.	At present.	Yield.		
		1881.	1882.	1883.
61	232	Kilos. 3,426	Kilos. 1,200	(anticipated) Kilos. 4,500

Cloves.

Acres in 1881.	At present.	Yield.		
		1881.	1882.	1883.
91	91	Kilos. 3,912	Kilos. 1,142	(anticipated) Kilos. 10,350

Cacao.

Acres at commencement of 1881.	At present.	Yield.		
		1881.	1882.	1883.
60	234	Kilos. 1,601	Kilos. 1,495	Not estimated.

The agricultural prospects for this year are therefore exceedingly favourable. It is gratifying, also, to be able to state that the diseases which have affected the cocoanut for many years past, but which were unusually virulent in the years 1881 and 1882, have since the close of last year shown a tendency to abate.

Mr. Button, the Conservator of Forests, reports that comparatively few cocoanut trees have died since the end of 1882, and that numerous young trees are coming into bearing. An increased yield of cocoanuts is therefore expected this year. The price of the oil is somewhat improving also.

Coffee and tobacco are grown, though not to the extent they might be, and Liberian coffee has been introduced and thrives well.

Crown Lands and Forests.

Considerable portions of Crown land have lately been reclaimed from squatters, who are being ejected wherever they are found on Government property.

The Government forests are much better protected than formerly, owing to the recent organisation of a separate Crown Lands and Forests Department. This department can only as yet be maintained on a very humble scale, and it is impossible altogether to prevent depredations and injury to timber; there has, however, been great improvement in this respect, and the work of replanting is being steadily carried on

Legislation.

There were eight Regulations passed by the Board of Civil Commissioners during the year, namely:—

Regulation 1 of 1882.—To consolidate regulations affecting larcenies of cocoanuts, vanilla, &c.

Regulation 2 of 1882.—To prevent the introduction of coffee plants and berries from Ceylon, Mauritius, and other places.

Regulation 3 of 1882.—To make provision for ascertaining the amount of compensation to be paid under Ordinance 31 of 1881.

Regulation 4 of 1882.—To repeal Clause III. of Regulation No. 7 of 1878, and to substitute other provisions in lieu thereof.

Regulation 5 of 1882.—Concerning the order and police of the Government pier as a legal quay.

Regulation 6 of 1882.—To alter the numbering of Regulation 7 of 1878.

Regulation 7 of 1882.—To validate all proceedings and surveys made under Ordinance 33 of 1867.

Regulation 8 of 1882.—Giving the force of law to the Estimates for 1883.

Of these Regulations, No. 1 has been returned for certain amendments by the Secretary of State; and for Regulation No. 2, it was deemed advisable by the Mauritius Government to substitute an Ordinance (7 of 1882) to the same effect.

ARTHUR BARKLY,
Chief Civil Commissioner.

Government House,
Seychelles, 6th June 1883.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

No. 19.

Governor KERR to the Right Hon. the EARL of DERBY.

Government House, Stanley, Falkland Islands,
MY LORD, February 19, 1884.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith, in duplicate, the annual "Blue Book" of this Colony for the year 1881.

2. I regret the long delay which has occurred in the transmission of this important return, the preparation of which was retarded until the accounts of the year had been examined and corrected by the Commissioner for Accounts, and the confusion into which the records of the Government Office had been thrown, by the negligence and fraud of the former Treasurer and acting Colonial Secretary, had been rectified. Afterwards the late Colonial Secretary was engaged in the preparation of this and other returns until the work was interrupted by his illness and death. Since then, on examining what had been done, I discovered errors which made it necessary to prepare part of it afresh.

I have the honour to report on the returns for the year 1881 as follows.

Taxes and Duties.

3. No alteration was made during the year; the taxes, as heretofore, being confined to licenses for the sale of liquors, for selling goods by auction, and for keeping dogs in Stanley; and the customs duties, which were levied only on imported liquors and tobacco.

Revenue and Expenditure.

4. The revenue for 1881 amounted to 8,391*l.* 3*s.* 6*d.*, exclusive of a balance of 464*l.* 4*s.* 1*d.* from 1880. There was an increase of 3,644*l.* 7*s.* 10*d.* over the previous year, the revenue of which was 4,746*l.* 15*s.* 8*d.* This increase arose from augmented customs duties, which amounted to 2,333*l.* 0*s.* 8*d.* against 964*l.* 15*s.* 9*d.* in 1880; sales of Crown lands, which amounted to 1,622*l.* 14*s.* 4*d.* against 1,059*l.* in 1880; land revenue, which amounted to 2,555*l.* 15*s.* 1*d.* against 1,812*l.* 15*s.* 8*d.* in 1880; 110*l.* 6*s.* 9*d.* fees and fines against 27*l.* 19*s.* 0*d.* in 1880; 50*l.* 14*s.* 0*d.* pilotage, against 27*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* in 1880; 81*l.* 11*s.* 0*d.* rates (sale of water to

shipping) against 7*l.* 19*s.* 3*d.* in 1880; and 734*l.* 15*s.* 10*d.* miscellaneous receipts (part of the defalcations of the former treasurer having been charged under that head) against 122*l.* 16*s.* 1*d.* in 1880.

5. The expenditure of 1881 amounted to 8,078*l.* 18*s.* 9*d.*, being 3,004*l.* 3*s.* 5*d.* more than that of the previous year, which was 5,074*l.* 15*s.* 4*d.*

The cost of conveying mails was 1,801*l.* 15*s.* 9*d.* against 534*l.* 16*s.* 2*d.* in 1880. The expenditure under the head of "Civil Store," which was chiefly on materials for the public works, was 817*l.* 17*s.* 4*d.* against 107*l.* 1*s.* 11*d.* in 1880. Works and buildings 252*l.* 7*s.* 2*d.* against 40*l.* 7*s.* 4*d.* in 1880, 143*l.* 13*s.* 10*d.* arrears of pay from 1880 to the Assistant Colonial Surgeon. An addition to the pension list of 113*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* for a former Colonial Secretary. An increase of 66*l.* 18*s.* 9*d.* prison expenditure and of 393*l.* 16*s.* 10*d.* miscellaneous services.

There is no Public Debt.

Public Works.

6. There were no new public works undertaken during the year, the expenditure being confined to the repairs of roads and drains, the construction of culverts for taking off the flood-water at the principal crossings in Stanley, and some repairs to the public buildings.

Legislation.

7. Four Ordinances were passed in 1881.

No. 1.—For taking the census of the Falkland Islands.

No. 2.—To extend to these settlements the Capital Punishment Amendment Act of 1863.

No. 3.—To remove doubts as to the validity of certain marriages, and to amend the Marriage Ordinances.

No. 4.—To provide for the establishment of a close time in the seal fishery of the Falkland Islands and their dependencies, and of the seas adjacent thereto.

Civil Establishment.

8. There were no changes in the Civil establishment during the year.

The Colonial Chaplain was absent in England on leave from the 1st of January to the 12th of July, and during his absence his duties were performed by Bishop Stirling.

The duties of schoolmaster, which have been temporarily discharged by the Colonial Chaplain until the appointment of a suitable master from England, were carried on throughout the year by Mr. James Lewis.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

Pensions.

9. Mr. H. L. Byng, formerly Colonial Secretary of the Falkland Islands, was granted a pension at the rate of 113*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* per annum, to commence from the 8th of October 1880. There was no other change in the pension list during the year.

Population.

10. The total population of the Colony as ascertained by the census taken on the 3rd of April 1881 was 1,553, the number of males being 976 and of females 577; of these, 325 males and 292 females were under 15 years of age.

One third of the population reside at Stanley. The remainder are chiefly employed in sheep farming and are settled as single families or as individuals, at long distances from each other, all over the Colony.

Half of the population of Stanley consists of children under 15 years of age. The adult population is composed chiefly of artizans and labourers, employed by the local merchants in occupations arising out of the trade of the port, and in the repair of disabled ships, and of the families of the seamen employed on the coasting vessels.

The following is an accurate analysis of the census:—

CENSUS OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDS, 3rd April, 1881.

No. 1.—*Area, Houses, and Population.*

—	Area.	Houses.			Population, exclusive of Shipping.		
	Acres.	Inhabited.	Uninhabited.*	Building.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Stanley and suburban district -	20,000	98	24	—	255	253	508
Lafonia, the property of the Falkland Islands Company -	700,000	31	14	—	104	48	152
Other districts of East Falkland -	624,364	65	9	1	231	142	373
West Falkland and adjacent islands -	1,000,790	81	16	3	256	125	381
Total - -	2,345,154	275	63	4	846	568	1,414

* Most of the houses returned as uninhabited were only temporarily vacant, as the census was taken in the sheep-shearing season, when many of the shepherds had left their huts and were assembled at the clipping stations. (This does not apply to Stanley.)

No. 2.—*Civil Condition of the Population.*

—	Single.		Married.		Widowers.	Widows.	Total.		
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.			Males.	Females.	Total.
Stanley and suburban district -	178	154	72	86	5	13	255	253	508
Lafonia (territory of the Falkland Islands Company) - -	82	29	22	19	—	—	104	48	152
Other districts of East Falkland -	172	90	55	49	4	3	231	142	373
West Falkland and adjacent islands - - -	193	76	54	49	9	—	256	125	381
Colonial shipping	69	5	17	4	1	—	87	9	96
British casual shipping - -	19	—	6	—	—	—	25	—	25
Foreign shipping -	14	—	2	—	2	—	18	—	18
Total - -	727	354	228	207	21	16	976	577	1,553

No. 3.—*Religion of the Population.*

——	Anglican.	Presbyterian.	Roman Catholic.	Other Denominations.	Total.
Stanley and suburban district - -	349	56	87	16	508
Other district of East Falkland (including Lafonia) - -	169	255	86	15	525
West Falkland and adjacent islands	210	97	61	13	381
Colonial shipping -	38	7	8	43	96
Casual shipping -	16	5	9	13	43
Total -	782	420	251	100	1,553

No. 4.—*Relative Ages of the Population.*

—	Stanley and Suburban District.		Lafonia, the territory of the Falkland Islands Company.		Other parts of East Falkland.		West Falkland and the adjacent Islands.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Under one year - -	15	6	3	1	11	4	4	7
Over one and under five years - - -	49	40	9	13	31	29	22	21
Over five and under 10 years	39	46	9	8	30	28	24	24
Over 10 and under 15 years	31	25	9	3	19	19	17	15
Over 15 and under 20 years	13	28	5	5	19	9	29	15
Over 20 and under 30 years	29	36	40	10	45	27	73	14
Over 30 and under 40 years	36	36	18	3	49	15	47	17
Over 40 and under 50 years	21	21	8	4	16	8	28	11
Over 50 and under 60 years	11	9	3	1	9	3	12	—
Over 60 and under 70 years	9	5	—	—	1	—	—	1
Over 70 and under 80 years	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
Over 80 and under 90 years	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total - -	255	253	104	48	231	142	256	125

(*continued.*)

—	Colonial Shipping.		Casual Shipping.	Total.		
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Males.	Males.	Total.
Under one year - - -	—	—	—	33	18	51
Over one and under five years -	—	—	—	111	103	214
Over five and under 10 years -	2	2	—	104	108	212
Over 10 and under 15 years -	1	1	—	77	63	140
Over 15 and under 20 years -	7	1	4	77	58	135
Over 20 and under 30 years -	39	1	17	243	88	331
Over 30 and under 40 years -	26	2	9	185	73	258
Over 40 and under 50 years -	8	2	12	93	46	139
Over 50 and under 60 years -	4	—	1	40	13	53
Over 60 and under 70 years -	—	—	—	10	6	16
Over 70 and under 80 years -	—	—	—	2	1	3
Over 80 and under 90 years -	—	—	—	1	—	1
Total - - -	87	9	43	976	577	1,553

No. 5.—*Occupation of the Population.*

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Government officers	4	—	4
Police officers, keepers and warders of prison, pilot and lighthouse keepers	10	1	11
Ministers of religion	3	—	3
Physicians and surgeons	2	—	2
Gentlemen without occupation in the Colony	7	—	7
Gentlewomen	—	17	17
Sheep farmers	26	—	26
Agents and managers	5	—	5
Sub-agents on pastoral stations	13	—	13
Merchants	2	—	2
Shopkeepers	1	1	2
Clerks and shopmen	8	—	8
Mechanics and artificers	52	—	52
Labourers, porters, and carters	14	—	14
Domestic servants	23	38	61
Butchers	6	—	6
Bakers	1	—	1
Shoemakers, tailors, and milliners	2	4	6
Shepherds, gauchos, and labourers on pastoral stations	323	—	323
Women engaged in household work and as laundresses	—	181	181
Scholars at school	111	83	194
Scholars at home	18	23	41
Children between five and fifteen years, not employed nor at school	63	71	134
Children under five years, not at schooi	131	119	250
School teachers	3	2	5
Adults unemployed	5	30	35
Printer	1	—	1
Publicans and lodging-house keepers	4	6	10
Criminals in confinement	4	—	4
Imbeciles	1	1	2
Mariners in colonial vessels	83	—	83
Mariners in British casual vessels	28	—	28
Mariners in foreign vessels	20	—	20
Superannuated pensioners	2	—	2
Total	976	577	1,553

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

No. 6.—*Places of Birth of the Population.*

—	Males.	Females.	Total.
BRITISH SUBJECTS BY BIRTH.			
Falkland Islands	350	310	660
United Kingdom	407	228	635
British North America	9	4	13
Bermuda	1	—	1
West Indies	2	3	5
Gibraltar	1	—	1
Malta	1	1	2
St. Helena	—	1	1
South Africa	—	1	1
East Indies	6	6	12
Australia	—	3	3
At sea	4	1	5
	781	558	1,339
BRITISH SUBJECTS NATURALISED BY COLONIAL ORDINANCE.			
Portuguese Colonies (Azores)	2	—	2
Germany	5	—	5
Denmark	2	—	2
Sweden	1	—	1
French Colonies (Martinique)	1	—	1
Argentine Republic	1	—	1
Uruguay	1	—	1
	13	—	13
BRITISH SUBJECTS ON BOARD CASUAL BRITISH MERCHANT SHIP.			
United Kingdom	20	—	20
British North America	1	—	1
Newfoundland	2	—	2
Corfu	1	—	1
	24	—	24
BRITISH SUBJECTS ON BOARD FOREIGN MERCHANT SHIP.			
United Kingdom	4	—	4
Sierra Leone	1	—	1
St. Helena	1	—	1
West Indies	3	—	3
	9	—	9

—	Males.	Females.	Total.
FOREIGNERS.			
Portuguese Colonies (Azores and Cape de Verd's)	7	—	7
Denmark	4	1	5
Sweden	22	—	22
Norway	10	—	10
Russia (Finland)	5	—	5
Austria	3	—	3
Germany	19	—	19
Switzerland	1	—	1
France	11	2	13
Holland	2	—	2
Belgium	1	—	1
Spain	—	1	1
Italy and Sicily	5	1	6
United States	12	—	12
Brazil	1	—	1
Argentine Republic	1	10	11
Uruguay	12	6	18
Chili	1	—	1
Tierra del Fuego	20	—	20
	137	21	158
FOREIGNERS ON BOARD BRITISH CASUAL MERCHANT SHIP.			
Sweden	1	—	1
FOREIGNERS ON BOARD FOREIGN MERCHANT SHIP.			
United States	7	—	7
Portuguese Colonies (Cape de Verd's)	1	—	1
Sicily	1	—	1
	9	—	9
TOTAL POPULATION.			
British subjects by birth	814	558	1,372
British subjects naturalised	13	—	13
Foreigners	147	21	168
	974	579	1,553

No. 7.—*Population to Area in the Districts occupied for Pastoral Purposes.*

—	Males.	Females.	Total.	Adult Males.	Number of Acres in each District.	Number of Acres to each Resident Person.	Number of Acres to each Male Adult.
Lafonia and adjacent islands -	104	48	152	67	700,000	4,605	10,447
Darwin and Black Rock district* -	106	65	171	57	105,742	618	1,855
North Salvador - - -	27	18	45	15	100,000	2,222	6,666
Teal inlet - - - -	15	12	27	5	85,655	3,172	17,131
Greenshiels' stations - -	17	8	25	9	76,127	3,045	8,458
San Carlos - - - -	16	14	30	11	61,000	2,033	5,545
Long Island district - - -	6	3	9	3	37,840	4,204	12,613
South Fitzroy - - -	7	3	10	5	36,000	3,600	7,200
Johnson's Harbour - - -	8	5	13	4	36,000	2,769	9,000
Estancia - - - -	1	3	4	1	30,000	7,500	30,000
Port Louis - - - -	16	3	10	5	28,000	1,473	5,600
North Fitzroy - - -	12	8	20	6	28,000	1,400	4,666
Total East Falkland and adjacent islands - -	335	190	525	188	1,324,364	2,522	7,044
Port Howard - - - -	48	29	77	32	154,040	2,000	4,813
Port Stephens - - -	51	30	81	28	127,160	1,569	4,541
Adelaide - - - -	21	6	27	16	111,000	4,111	6,937
Chartres River - - -	7	3	10	6	100,000	10,000	16,666
East Fox Bay - - - -	13	5	18	10	99,000	5,500	9,900
West Fox Bay - - -	7	1	8	7	76,297	9,537	10,899
Roy Cove and West Point Island -	26	16	41	10	65,000	1,585	6,500
Port Edgar - - - -	11	6	17	6	63,000	3,705	10,500
Spring Point - - - -	8	4	12	6	60,493	5,041	10,082
Weddell Island - - -	12	2	14	10	54,000	3,857	5,400
Pebble Island - - - -	10	2	12	6	25,000	2,083	4,166
Saunders Island - - -	6	3	9	6	21,000	2,333	3,500
Carcass and Jason's Islands -	2	—	2	2	12,800	6,400	6,400
Beaver Island - - -	10	8	18	4	12,000	666	3,000
New Island - - - -	4	6	10	1	10,000	1,000	10,000
Keppel Island - - -	21	4	25	9	10,000	400	1,111
Total West Falkland and adjacent islands - -	256	125	381	159	1,000,790	2,626	6,294
Total - -	591	315	906	347	2,325,154	2,566	6,700

* This includes the village of "Darwin."

TOTAL OCCUPIED AREA.

	Acres.
Stanley and suburbs - - -	20,000
Pastoral districts - - - -	2,325,154
	2,345,154

Education.

11. There are three schools in the Colony, two of which are in Stanley, and are supported by the Government, and one at Darwin which is supported by the Falkland Islands Company for the children of their employés.

The Government Primary School at Stanley is well attended and a fair elementary education is given. There was a vacancy in the situation of master during the whole of 1881, but the school was carried on satisfactorily throughout the year by Mr. James Lewis, as a temporary arrangement, until the arrival of a master to be appointed in England.

Imports and Exports.

12. The value of the imports in 1881 was 40,443*l.* In 1880 it was 35,505*l.*; and in 1879 it was 38,940*l.*

The quantity of imports fluctuates very much, and does not indicate the actual consumption, the increase of which, although certain, is gradual and bears no proportion to the difference shown by the actual importations, the great bulk of which arrive in large quantities and at long and uncertain intervals.

13. The value of the exports in 1881 was 87,919*l.* In 1880 it was 88,564*l.*, and in 1879 it was 71,340*l.*

In the case of exports also the value shown in the returns does not indicate the quantity of the article exported. The principal export is wool, the quantity of which increases every year, and will continue to do so until the sheep farms are fully stocked, but the price of wool fluctuates very much, and the value given in the returns does not denote the quantity exported.

Shipping.

14. Twenty-nine sailing vessels arrived in the Colony in 1881, the aggregate tonnage being 18,942.

In 1880 the arrivals numbered 38, and the tonnage was 20,475. Of the arrivals in 1881, seven were engaged in the trade of the Colony, and the others were in want of assistance or repairs, having met with disasters at sea, two of them, the "Sussex" and the "Duke of Argyle" had been dismasted and had to remain in harbour until new masts and rigging could be sent from England. They were both large iron ships with iron masts.

The "Sussex" was towed into port by the Kosmos Company's steamship "Menes." She was quite helpless and in danger, and had drifted out of sight of land after being in sight for a whole day.

Fourteen steamships of the Kosmos Company of Hamburg arrived during 1881, and the monthly mail service was regularly performed in the terms of their contract with the Government.

Criminal Statistics.

15. Felonious crimes are of rare occurrence in this Colony, but in 1881 a murder was committed on board one of the vessels in the harbour. The murderer was tried in the Supreme Court, found guilty, and sentenced to death, but the sentence was commuted to penal servitude for life; the circumstances under which the crime was committed raising a doubt as to deliberate intention.

The other offences during the year were chiefly drunkenness, brawling, and refractory conduct on the part of some of the merchant seamen, and were punished summarily by fines, or short terms of imprisonment.

The conduct of the resident population is generally good and orderly.

General.

16. The year 1881 was a prosperous one for the Colony. There was a large increase of stock on the sheep stations and an improvement in the condition of the sheep has been reported; more pains having been generally taken for the eradication and prevention of scab by the regular use of suitable sheep dip.

17. Much profit was derived from the repairs of so many disabled ships in Stanley harbour, on which the artizans of Stanley found full employment at high wages throughout the year.

18. As the climate of this region, in so far as relates to the storms which cause so much damage to ships passing Cape Horn, is a subject of much interest and importance, I am glad to be able to include in this report the following meteorological table, which has been kindly furnished by Mr. F. E. Cobb, manager for the Falkland Islands Company.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Derby, &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) T. KERR, Governor.

ABSTRACT of METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS, STANLEY, F.I., 1881.

—	Mean pressure at 9 a.m. and 9 p.m.	Air Temperature.					Humidity (Relative)	Dew Point	Amount of Cloud 0–10.	Rainfall.			Rain, Snow, or Hail.	Wind.								
		9 a.m.	Means of		Absolute.									Directions at 9 a.m.								
			Max.	Min.	Max.	Min.	9 a.m.	9 a.m.	9 a.m.	Total fall.	Greatest fall in 24 hours.			N.	N.E.	E.	S.E.	S.	S.W.	W.	W.N.	Calm.
											Amount.	Date.										
	In.	°	°	°	°	°	Per cent.	°		In.	In.		Days.									
January - -	29·517	50·0	54·9	42·0	66·2	36·8	77	42·8	6·7	4·00	0·78	12	19	4	0	1	1	6	9	7	3	0
February - -	·568	49·5	53·7	42·8	61·0	34·9	82	44·1	6·8	2·10	·47	8	18	1	0	1	0	4	9	6	7	0
March - - -	·557	47·1	52·2	39·4	61·8	33·4	83	42·0	7·0	2·99	·54	21	23	2	0	0	0	6	3	13	7	0
April - - -	·693	44·8	48·8	39·2	55·8	31·2	89	41·6	6·5	2·52	·67	1	17	4	0	0	1	2	4	6	7	6
May - - -	·561	39·6	43·7	34·7	48·8	27·8	90	36·6	7·1	2·37	·41	22	23	1	2	0	0	3	3	16	3	3
June - - -	·547	37·9	40·2	32·5	45·8	26·3	92	35·8	7·5	2·91	·59	12	23	2	0	0	1	2	6	12	5	2
July - -	·656	36·6	40·0	32·8	44·6	27·2	94	34·9	7·8	3·09	·63	26	22	1	1	2	3	2	7	3	6	6
August - - -	·704	38·4	41·0	32.7	49·4	24·0	92	36·3	6·4	2·01	·38	17	20	1	1	1	0	1	5	14	6	2
September - -	·680	39·2	42·6	33·9	51·3	27·1	90	36·4	8·0	1·87	·42	26	22	4	1	0	1	3	10	7	4	0
October - -	·627	45·4	49·5	37·6	62·4	31·6	80	39·6	5·7	1·95	·40	8	12	0	0	0	1	2	8	14	6	0
November - -	·486	47·8	53·2	39·1	63·6	32·4	75	40·2	6·4	1·77	·41	3	16	3	3	1	0	3	7	11	2	0
December - -	·343	48·7	54·1	41·2	66·6	33·1	76	41·4	7·2	3·45	·43	18	24	3	0	0	2	6	10	4	5	1
Total - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	31·03	—	—	239	26	8	6	10	40	81	113	61	20
Means and extremes -	29·578	43·7	47·8	37·3	66·6	24·0	85	39·3	6·9	—	0·78	Jan 12.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

PAPERS

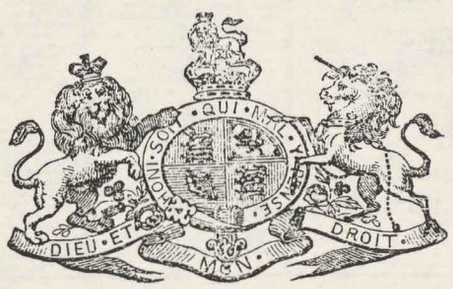
RELATING TO

HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS,

REPORTS FOR 1882, 1883, AND 1884.

(*In continuation of* [C.-4015.] *of May* 1884.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
August 1884.



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1884.

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1	Tasmania - - - - -	1882	3
2	Western Australia - - -	1883	98
3	Jamaica - - - - -	„	106
4	British Honduras - - - -	„	131
5	„ Guiana - - - -	„	145
6	Bahamas - - - - -	„	168
7	Turks Islands - - - -	„	175
8	St. Vincent - - - - -	„	181
9	St. Lucia - - - - -	„	188
10	Antigua - - - - -	„	199
11	Virgin Islands - - - -	„	202
12	Dominica - - - - -	„	204
13	Bermuda - - - - -	„	218
14	Gibraltar - - - - -	„	226
15	Malta - - - - -	„	230
16	Ceylon - - - - -	„	235
17	Hong Kong - - - - -	„	254
18	Labuan - - - - -	„	264
19	Norfolk Island (Visit to the Island and Report upon it, by Governor the Right Hon. Lord A. Loftus, G.C.B.) - - -	1884	273

TASMANIA.

No. 1.

Governor Sir G. C. STRAHAN, K.C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY.

Government House, Hobart,
January 12, 1884.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship the 'Statistics of the Colony of Tasmania for the year 1882," which I have received this day.

2. I regret that owing to pressure of work in the Government Printing Office these returns have not been sent at an earlier date.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GEO. C. STRAHAN.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Derby,
&c. &c.

The GOVERNMENT STATISTICIAN to the Honourable the CHIEF SECRETARY.

General Register Office, Hobart,
December 10, 1883.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to present you with the completed volume of the general statistics of this Colony for the year 1882.

POPULATION.

Natural Increase, Migration, and Density.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Population, 31st December - -	65,131	57,348	122,479
Percentage - - - -	53·18	46·82	100·

There is an increase of 3,556 persons—1,897 males and 1,659 females—as compared with the previous year. Of this increase, 60·09 per cent. (2,137) is due to excess of births over deaths, and the remaining 29·91 per cent. (1,419) is due to excess of immigration over emigration. This now makes up the seventh year in which the balance of migration has been continuously in favour

TASMANIA.

of Tasmania. During the five years prior to 1876 the balance of migration was continuously in favour of other countries, and this Colony suffered a loss to her population thereby of 4,381 persons, equal to 60·4 per cent. of the natural increase during the same period. Since the year 1876, when tin and gold first assumed importance as products of Tasmania, immigration has added 5,757 to our population, equal to 46·2 per cent. of the natural increase during the same period. Elsewhere it will be shown how greatly the mining industries have added to the material welfare of Tasmania within the period, as indicated by exported and imported merchandise. In this place it may be of additional interest to note how far this prosperity affects the factors of population. This is best realized by contrasting the average results per year of migration and natural increase of the five-yearly period ending 31st December 1875 with the same for the seven-yearly period ending 31st December 1882 :—

	Period 1871–75.	Period 1876–82.
Average increase to population per year, persons - - - - No.	579	2,688
Average ditto per 1,000 square miles - No.	22	102
Average birth-rate per 1,000 persons per year - - - - -	29·72	32·06
Average result of migration per year, persons - - - No.	−876	+822

The total number of persons who travelled to and from Tasmania during the year 1882 amounts to 24,225. This exceeds the corresponding number in 1872 by 12,433, or 105·4 per cent. increase. The immediate direction and the extent of this movement is indicated by the following figures :—

	No. of Persons.	Per cent. to Total.
Tasmania and Victoria direct - -	22,027	90·93
Do. New South Wales direct -	1,712	7·07
Do. New Zealand do. -	438	1·80
Do. all other countries - -	48	0·20
Do. all countries - - -	24,225	100·00
Do. do. males - -	16,711	68·98
Do. do. females - -	7,514	31·02

Thus it would appear that 90·93 per cent. of the whole travel immediately between Tasmania and Victoria. This in itself, however, is no true indication of ultimate direction, as Port Phillip is the great transhipping centre for the principal European and other steamers which do not touch at any Tasmanian port. Fully two-thirds of those who travel are males.

Bounty Immigration and Naturalization.

The number of assisted immigrants introduced into the Colony during the year 1882 is 141,—63 males and 78 females,—and exceeds the corresponding figures in 1881 by 82, or an increase of 138·98 per cent. Of these, England furnished 125, Ireland 42, Scotland 25, and other countries 8. The emigration from the United Kingdom during the same period represented 228,767 persons, the greater part of whom (187,779) went to America; only 31,465 persons proceeded to the Colonies of Australasia of which latter number the Tasmanian assisted immigrants only represent 0·4 per cent.

Of the 17 persons naturalized during the year, 8 are Germans and the remaining 9 are Chinese.

The density of the population on the 31st December is, on the average, equal to 467 persons per 100 square miles. This is high as compared with the average density of the population of Australasia as a whole, which is now estimated at 95 persons per 100 square miles.

Tasmania still maintains her position as the third in rank in density of population as compared with the individual Colonies:—

(1.) Victoria, 1,031 per 100 square miles.
(2.) New Zealand, 495 per 100 ditto.
(3.) Tasmania, 467 per 100 ditto.
(4.) New South Wales, 263 per 100 ditto.
(5.) South Australia, 32 per 100 ditto.
(6.) Queensland, 37 ditto.
(7.) Western Australia, 3 per 100 ditto.

Political Franchise.

The following are the numbers of those electors whose names were on the electoral roll on 31st December 1882:—

——	No.	Estimated percentage to Males over 21 years of Age.
Legislative Council - - - -	3,379	9·7
House of Assembly - - - -	16,419	47·4

TASMANIA.

VITAL AND METEOROLOGICAL.

Births.

During the year 1882 the number of births registered was 4,043, of which 2,969, or 51·17 per cent., were males, and 1,974, or 48·83 per cent., females. Thus the males were in excess of females by 95, or 4·81 per cent.

The following abstract shows the comparison with the nine years previous in the districts forming the various divisions :—

Number of Births.

—	1873.	1874.	1875.	1876.	1877.	1878.
Urban Districts :—						
Hobart - - - -	725	783	755	761	809	844
Launceston - - -	395	374	390	406	408	457
Total urban districts -	1,120	1,157	1,145	1,167	1,217	1,301
Country districts - - -	1,928	1,940	1,960	1,982	1,994	2,201
Total for Tasmania -	3,048	3,097	3,105	3,149	3,211	3,502
Birth-rate per 1,000 of mean population - - -	29·43	29·72	29·88	30·11	30·21	32·27

continued.

—	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	Average per Year.
Urban districts :—					
Hobart Town - - -	858	900	887	917	823·90
Launceston - - -	436	491	533	582	447·20
Total urban districts -	1,294	1,391	1,420	1,499	1,271·10
Country districts - - -	2,270	2,348	2,498	2,544	2,166·50
Total for Tasmania -	3,564	3,739	3,918	4,043	3,437·60
Birth-rate per 1,000 of mean population - - -	32·04	32·90	33·40	33·50	31·42

The above table upon the whole shows that there has been a gradual increase during the decade both in the actual number of births registered and in the birth-rate per 1,000 of mean population of each year. The birth-rate for 1882, 33·50, is the highest upon record since the year 1862, exceeding the birth-rate for the year 1881 by ·10, and the average birth-rate of the decade, 31·42, by 2·08. This gradual increase of the birth-rate is most satisfactory, as, in the opinion of the Registrar-General of England, Mr. Hayter of Victoria, and other eminent authorities, it is also a valuable index of the material prosperity of the country. Increased prosperity in material welfare is invariably associated with an increase of marriages and births. It is true the birth-rate in Tasmania is still below the average of the neighbouring Colonies, but this is not due to a lower rate of fertility in mothers, but rather to the relatively fewer mothers at the fertile ages—say 15

to 45. Mr. Hayter has very clearly shown this to be the case as regards Victoria (Year Book, 1881, p. 186).

The following table further demonstrates the truth of Mr. Hayter's conclusions, so far as Tasmania, New Zealand, and Victoria are concerned; thus:—

Country.	Year of Census.	Enumerated Population.	Per-centage of all Ages over 60.	Married Women under 45 years.	Births.	Proportion of Births.	
						Per 1,000 of Population.	Per 1,000 of Married Women under 45 years.
Victoria - -	1871	731,528	2·76	88,561	27,382	37·15	309·17
„ - -	1881	862,346	4·65	84,831	27,145	31·24	319·98
New Zealand -	1881	489,933	2·71	57,464	18,732	37·95	325·97
Tasmania - -	1881	115,705	8·04	11,302	3,918	33·40	346·66

The inclusion of illegitimate births does not materially affect the value of this table, and it conclusively proves that the fertility of mothers may be greatest while the birth-rate index is comparatively low, and *vice versâ*.

The birth-rate in young communities is invariably high, because, as the major proportion of immigrants is composed of young and vigorous persons, the proportion of old people living is much less than in older countries where the proportions of persons living at various ages are in a normal condition. Thus, as a young colony advances towards a settled state, the per-centage proportion of the living population over 60 years of age increases as the birth-rate diminishes. If we compare the present condition of the more settled Colonies with their earlier stages, or with other Colonies more recently settled, we will find this law so truly demonstrated, that in nearly every case it conceals other important influences, such as the relative proportion of sexes, conjugal relation, &c.

The following table shows the relation between the per-centages of old age and its effect upon the birth-rate in different Colonies, and in the earlier and later stages of their settlement:—

Colony.	Year of Census.	Per-centage of Ages over 60 to total Population.	Birth-rate.
Victoria - - -	1871	2·76	37·15
Do. - - - -	1881	4·65	31·24
New South Wales - - -	1871	3·98	39·42
Do. - - -	1881	4·31	37·99
South Australia - - -	1881	4·13	37·11
Tasmania - - - -	1857	2·77	39·83
Do. - - - -	1881	8·04	33·40
Queensland - - -	1881	1·87	37·19
New Zealand - - -	1881	2·71	37·95

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It will be observed where the per-centage of ages over 60 is under 3 per cent., that the birth-rate is exceedingly high, as at present in Queensland and New Zealand; and that in cases where the per-centage of living persons over 60 exceeds 3 per cent., the birth-rate is relatively low, as in the case of Victoria and Tasmania.

These observations are also of value in explaining the differences between the birth-rates of the different divisions within the Colony of Tasmania for the year 1882. Thus wherever the birth-rate is above the average for all districts, it is chiefly because under a normal health condition the per-centage of old people is lower than in the divisions where the birth-rate is under the average.

Districts.	Per-centage of Ages of living Population over 60.	Birth-rate per 1,000 Persons.
North-Eastern Division - - -	5·99	36·17
North-Western Division - - -	6·03	35·13
South-Western Division - - -	7·05	34·33
Midland Division - - - -	8·66	32·35
South-Eastern Division - - -	8·90	31·11
Urban districts - - -	9·19	33·03
Average for Tasmania - - -	8·04	33·50

The reason why the Urban Districts disturb the sequence of order of the group under the average is no doubt due to the circumstance that many pregnant mothers are compelled to live in towns on account of the lack of skilled medical attendants in some country districts.

Deaths.

The deaths registered during the year 1882 numbered 1,906, of which 1,101, or 57·76 per cent., were males, and 805, or 42·24 per cent., were females. With the exception of the years 1875 and 1877, when epidemics of measles and scarlatina prevailed, the actual number of deaths greatly exceeds that of any other year during the last decade. The absolute number of deaths for the year exceeds that of the previous year by 173, and is in excess of the average of the last decade by 116·20. It does not follow, however, that the year *per se* has been unusually unfavourable to health, for the absolute number of deaths must naturally increase with the yearly increasing population.

Death-rate.

The normal death-rate—*i.e.*, the proportion which the actual deaths bears to the mean population—is, under ordinary circumstances, a better index of the relative healthiness of each year.

The following table gives the death-rates for the last decade:—

Year.	Deaths.		Year.	Deaths.	
	No.	Rate per 1,000 of Population.		No.	Rate per 1,000 of Population.
1873 - - - -	1,512	14·60	1878 - - - -	1,701	15·67
1874 - - - -	1,690	16·22	1879 - - - -	1,688	15·18
1875 - - - -	2,079	20·01	1880 - - - -	1,832	16·17
1876 - - - -	1,733	16·57	1881 - - - -	1,733	14·77
1877 - - - -	2,040	19·19	1882 - - - -	1,909	15·82

Thus it would appear that although the death-rate for 1882 was only exceeded during the second quinquenniad of the decade by the year 1880, it is lower than any year of the first quinquenniad with the exception of the very favourable year 1873.

Although extreme variations in the death-rate of one place may as a rule be depended upon as a test of sanitary condition, it does not always follow that the minor fluctuations under 17 per 1,000 of the population are good indices of improved or defective sanitation.

Where, as in Tasmania, the ages above "three score years and ten"—the allotted span of human life—contribute 22·93 per cent. of the total deaths, it is evident that the death-rate which includes this element must in itself be unsatisfactory as a test of sanitary condition. This is apparent when we come to consider the broad proportional differences which certain groups of ages of the living population yield to the yearly number of deaths.

The following table shows the vast difference between the numbers which certain groups of ages yield to the yearly number of deaths in England, and in the principal Colonies of Australasia:—

Country.	Period.	Per-centage of Ages—Living Population.			
		0–5.	5–60.	60 and over.	All ages.
England - -	1880	13·5	79·0	7·5	100
Queensland - -	1881	14·95	83·18	1·87	100
South Australia -	1881	14·89	80·98	4·13	100
New South Wales -	1881	14·84	80·85	4·31	100
Victoria - -	1881	13·22	82·13	4·65	100
Tasmania - -	1881	14·03	77·93	8·04	100
New Zealand - -	1881	17·01	80·27	2·72	100

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Country.	Period.	Per-centage of Deaths to total Deaths.			
		0–5.	5–60.	60 and over.	All ages.
England - -	1880	42·47	33·34	24·19	100
Queensland - -	1881	41·40	51·34	7·26	100
South Australia -	1881	48·21	37·92	13·87	100
New South Wales	1881	42·05	38·87	19·08	100
Victoria - -	1881	35·87	45·62	18·51	100
Tasmania -	1881	32·91	32·79	34·30	100
	1882	30·14	33·56	36·30	100
New Zealand - -	1881	44·52	44·98	10·50	100

The above table not only shows the great disparity in the proportions of certain groups of ages to the total population in the several countries, but also the great difference which each age-group yields to the total number of deaths in each country per year. Thus, while the living persons in the Australasian Colonies under five years only represent from 13·22 to 17·01 of the total population, the same age-group contributes from 32·90 to 44·52 of the total deaths; and while the ages of persons over 60 only represent from 1·87 to 8·04 per cent. of the living population, the same age-group contributes proportionately from 7·26 to 36·30 per cent. of the total deaths. It must therefore be obvious that while the respective age-groups contribute in such different proportions to the yearly number of deaths, that any disturbance of the living groups of ages of different countries caused by migration or otherwise must so greatly affect the normal or natural death-rates for all ages that comparisons between different countries, based solely upon their indications, must be widely misleading as tests of health or sanitary condition. This specially applies to the unstable age relations of the newly settled Colonies of Australasia; *e.g.*, who could imagine from the annual death-rates of Queensland, 16·17, and Tasmania, 15·41, that the deaths over 60 years of the former only comprised 7·26 per cent. of total deaths, while the latter, with its lower general indication, embraced deaths of over 60 years comprising 36·30 of the total deaths.

Moreover, under any circumstance it would seem to be most desirable to separate the deaths from extreme old age from other causes in analyses of matters bearing upon health or sanitary

condition, for although in imagination we could, with Dr. Richardson, conceive of the future *Hygeia* as perfectly freed from preventible causes of death, yet if it be admitted that the fully ripe aged must die, we must also conceive that as we approach the ideal city of health, the proportions of deaths in childhood, youth, and middle age can only diminish as the proportion of old age increases. Thus, when the future Registrar-General can record deaths from extreme old age "100 per cent." there will be perfect health, and the only value of the annual death-rate for all ages, now generally used with so much advantage in older countries as a test of sanitary condition, will be merely as a measure of the natural increase or decrease of population. From these considerations it is clear that the ordinary death-rate index for Tasmania is not a fair test of her sanitary condition as compared with the neighbouring Colonies, for by it alone she ranks next to Queensland with the highest death rate; thus—

1. Queensland	-	1881	16·17
2. Tasmania	-	1882	15·41
3. New South Wales	-	1881	15·12
4. Victoria	-	1881	14·71
5. South Australia	-	1881	14·52
6. New Zealand	-	1881	11·49

If we now eliminate from the calculation all deaths of persons over 60 years of age, we have a much truer standard of the comparative health and sanitary condition of the respective Colonies; thus—

Proportion of Deaths under 60 *years of Age relative to* 1,000 *persons of the Total living population.*

Countries.	Year 1881.	5 Years' average, 1877–1881.
1. Tasmania	9·70	10·16
2. New Zealand	9·96	10·35
3. Victoria	11·54	12·35
4. New South Wales	12·14	12·39
5. South Australia	12·25	12·61
6. Queensland	13·95	15·31
7. England (1880)	15·47	—

This method places Tasmania in the first position as regards health and sanitary condition; the other Colonies in the following order,—viz., New Zealand, Victoria, New South Wales, South Australia, Queensland.

It must be borne in mind, however, that this method, though a much more accurate index to sanitary condition than the national or normal death-rate for all ages, also involves a certain

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per-centage of error, inasmuch as the countries having the largest proportion of old age have now by an increased standard of comparison (the total population) a slight advantage over those with a smaller proportion. The correction, if made, would place New Zealand in the first position, Tasmania second, the rest in nearly the same order as already given.

Nothing short of an actual comparison of deaths at certain ages with persons living at corresponding ages can be of a satisfactory character, although in the latter case, as usually given by statisticians, there are complications arising from the indications in different age-groups ranking in different degrees of order; *e.g.*, in the following table, based upon the method indicated, Victoria stands third in rank for the lowest number of deaths under five years of age, whereas for age-group, 5–60, it occupies the sixth position in this respect :—

Deaths at various Ages computed independently in relation to Persons living at corresponding Ages.

Average of Quinquennium, 1877–81.

Country.	Deaths per 1,000 Persons living at corresponding Ages.			
	0–5.	5–60.	60 and over.	All Ages.
New Zealand - -	31·01	6·29	42·11	11·49
Tasmania - -	34·51	6·80	66·24	15·41
Victoria - - -	41·12	8·38	50·68	14·71
New South Wales -	44·37	7·08	62·80	15·12
South Australia - -	47·05	6·87	42·97	14·52
Queensland - -	46·77	8·37	56·01	16·17
England, 1880 - -	64·35	8·68	66·30	20·50

Thus the difficulty of comparison would be increased indefinitely if the age-groups were further sub-divided, and the inconvenience of dealing with such indices, no doubt, has in some measure brought the general national standard more fixedly into use as a test of sanitary condition.

If the deaths at ages under 60 be calculated as a whole in relation to persons actually living under the same age-limit, we would obtain, undisturbed by the important old-age element, a truer relative standard of health between different times and differently constituted communities. Thus, for the Census year 1881 we obtain the following results, which place the respective

countries, as regards health and sanitary condition, in truer relation to each other than by the "national" standard :—

1881.

Country.	Deaths under 60 per 1,000 Persons living under the same Age limit.
1. New Zealand, 1881	10·40
2. Tasmania, 1881	11·40
3. Victoria, 1881	12·22
4. New South Wales, 1881	12·87
5. South Australia, 1881	13·06
6. Queensland, 1881	14·36
7. England, 1880	16·85

This I conceive to be by far the truer general "health measure" in comparisons made between different places differently constituted in respect of the proportion of persons living at different age groups, and as such I submit it with due deference to those of wider experience in matters pertaining to vital statistics. The national and the normal death-rates for all ages may of course be used with advantage in countries where the age relation is comparatively stable, but in the Colonies, where the age relations are continually disturbed by migration, the "health measure" as already defined is more reliable, quite as convenient, and, moreover, has the advantage of relieving health officers from the unmerited opprobrium of local high death-rates arising purely from excess of old age, as is the case at present in Tasmania.

In one of the tables already given, it will be observed that Tasmania, although ranking second in the order of least number of deaths under 60 years of age, nevertheless ranks last in order in deaths over that limit. This arises, however, from the fact that in Tasmania a greater number of old persons have reached the final natural limit of a healthy human life, *i.e.*, extreme old age than in the rest of the Colonies compared.

This may be conceded when we consider the following comparison of the average age at death in Tasmania, Victoria, New Zealand, and England :—

All Ages—Average Age at Death, Persons.

	Years.
Tasmania, 1881	36·87
Victoria, 1881	30·21
New Zealand, 1881	23·15
England, 1880	30·57

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Ages over Sixty—Average Age at Death—Persons.

	Years.
Tasmania, 1881 - - -	72·90
New Zealand, 1881 - - -	70·82

The true test of the general healthiness of any locality for ages over 60 should not be based upon any relation to the living population, but rather upon the average age at death.

Extreme old age is, *per se*, an infallible index of health, whether due to the life or its environment. Therefore, to mingle deaths from extreme old age with deaths from the more or less preventible causes in any common rate used as a test of sanitary condition must in my opinion frequently result in anomalies and confusion.

Little value can be placed upon the alleged preventible causes of death in ages over 70 years. They indicate more the season of the year than the real cause of death in such cases, *e.g.*, recently a person died in Tasmania 90 years of age; the cause of death assigned was influenza. Clearly such cases should be assigned to old age alone.

It is quite possible, however, that other causes may be acting concurrently with extreme old age in producing a higher rate of mortality in Tasmania among the ages over 60, but it is clear that they are unimportant when considered in relation with the cause assigned, viz., the extreme limit of a healthy human life.

Upon the whole, it has been clearly demonstrated that the influence of the age element in a rate based upon *total* population is not to be depended upon in comparisons between widely different times or places. The extremely high rate of births, and the low annual rate of deaths, in the Colonies are in no small measure due to immigration largely swelling the age-group, 5 to 60 years, while the converse of this is true in respect of old countries, such as England, where emigration reduces the natural proportion of this important age-group. It is true, the birth-rate index in the older countries is not lowered, nor the death-rate increased, by emigration to such an extent as these same indices are affected conversely in the younger Colonies, but this is solely due to the circumstance that the same number of emigrants would represent to the larger population of the older country a very small proportion, while the addition to the smaller population would represent a very large proportion indeed; *e.g.*, assuming for the purpose of illustration that the bulk of emigrants are between the ages of 5–60 years, and that the whole of the deaths are reckoned in the particular year against the country to which the emigrants have proceeded, then in the year 1874. New

Zealand and England had their respective populations, deaths, and death-rates affected nearly in the following manner:—

1874.

Population of United Kingdom prior to Emigration, say, 23,723,017.
Population of New Zealand prior to Emigration, say, 284,687.

	Effect as regards England.		Effect as regards New Zealand.	
	Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.
Population - -	—	36,000	36,000	
Number of Deaths -	—	269	269	
Average of Deaths in New Zealand between 5–60 per 1,000 persons - 6·29				
Average of Deaths in England between 5·60 per 1,000 persons - - 8·68				
Mean - 7·48				
Death-rate per 1,000 of the total population -	0·04	—	—	0·70

Thus, it is shown that in one year the same influence which increases the actual number of deaths in the smaller community by 269 has, by its increase of 36,000 vigorous lives to the population, actually lowered the death-rate to a considerable extent, viz., 0·70 per 1,000 of total living persons; while the larger population by the same influence has its death-rate increased only to the extent of 0·04 per 1,000 of total living persons.

It is easy therefore to conceive that a tide of immigration into a small colony over, say, a period of 12 years may have the effect of reducing its annual death-rate in this way by three to four deaths per 1,000 of the total living population, while the death-rate of the larger population, although really increased thereby, is still scarcely appreciable.

These considerations are sufficient to account for the remarkably low death-rate in New Zealand as compared with Tasmania, the former having largely added to its population by immigration during the last 12 years, while the latter has had very little addition to its population due to this source, and has moreover a much larger proportion of persons living over 60 years of age than any other Australian Colony, and exceeding even the average of the United Kingdom of Great Britain.

If we now turn our attention to the various divisions into which the registration districts within Tasmania are grouped, we will find that they too, are also very differently constituted

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as regards the proportion of persons living at ages over 60 years. This is also indicated by the average age at death in town and country registration districts calculated for the Census year 1881; thus—

District.	Average Age at Death, year 1881.
	Years.
Hobart - - - - - - -	42·00
Launceston - - - - - - -	39·39
Country districts - - - - - -	31·11
Tasmania - - - - - - -	36·87

This is in accord with a former statement, where it was shown that the per-centages of persons living at ages over 60 during Census year 1881 were, in country districts, much lower than in the two urban districts, the former ranging from 5·99 to 8·90 per cent. and the latter being 9·19 per cent.

It is necessary, therefore, that the old age element should be eliminated in comparisons between the different districts within Tasmania. As aged paupers, criminals, and hospitals are centred in the two principal towns, it is necessary that deaths in these places, being 19·20 per cent. of the whole, should also be separated from the deaths in urban districts before satisfactory comparisons can be made.

The following table compares the urban and country districts for the year 1882:—

District or Division.	Per cent. of Persons over 60 living.*	Deaths at all Ages per 1,000 Persons.*	Deaths under 60 years per 1,000 Persons living under same Age limit.
		No.	No.
Urban Districts—			
Hobart - - -	9·83	24·31	11·41†
Launceston - - -	8·16	24·76	15·74†
Average, Urban Districts -	9·19	24·48	13·25†
Country Districts—			
North-Eastern Division -	5·99	10·71	9·19
North-Western Division -	6·03	9·78	7·72
Midland Division - -	8·66	10·34	7·31
South-Eastern Division -	8·90	11·60	9·10
South-Western Division -	7·05	9·41	6·85
Average, Country Districts -	7·33	10·56	8·59
All Districts - -	8·04	15·79	11·40

* Including Deaths in hospitals, gaols, &c.
† Excluding Deaths in hospitals, gaols, &c.

By the first method, including deaths in hospitals, gaols, pauper establishments, and ages over 60 years, the divisions stand in the following order:—

1. South-Western Division.
2. North-Western Division.
3. Midland Division.
4. North-Eastern Division.
5. South-Eastern Division.
6. Hobart.
7. Launceston.

By the second method the sanitary condition of the respective divisions is more correctly determined, and the order of divisions stands thus:—

1. South-Western Division.
2. Midland Division.
3. North-Western Division.
4. South-Eastern Division.
5. North-Eastern Division.
6. Hobart.
7. Launceston.

Thus, by either method, the district of Launceston for the year 1882 compares very unfavourably with Hobart and with the country districts as regards health and sanitary condition. This conclusion is also borne out by an examination of the infant rate of mortality, which is based upon the comparison of the number of deaths under one year with the number of births.

The following table shows the various districts or divisions in the order of fewest deaths for infants under one year:—

Infantile Mortality.

District or Division.	Deaths under one Year per 1,000 Births.
Country Districts—	
1. South-Western Division - - - -	56·4
2. Midland Division - - - - -	58·6
3. South-Eastern Division - - - -	60·9
4. North-Western Division - - - -	86·8
5. North-Eastern Division - - - -	87·2
Urban Districts—	
6. Hobart - - - - - -	142·8
7. Launceston - - - - - -	171·8
All Districts - - - - - -	103·6

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With these it may be useful to compare the rates of infant mortality elsewhere, as in following table:—

Infantile Mortality in England and in the Australasian Colonies.

Country.		Death of Infants under one Year per 1,000 Births.	
England—average 11 years, 1869–79		150	
South Australia	Average of 15 years, 1866–1880, taken from Mr. Hayter's table, Victorian Year Book, 1881, p. 215.	150	Average 119.
Queensland		129	
Victoria		124	
New South Wales		108	
New Zealand		99	
Tasmania—average of 17 years, 1866–1882		103	

Although Tasmania as a whole compares very favourably with other countries in respect of infant mortality, it is evident that the comparison is made less favourable by the relative high rate of infant mortality in Launceston district for the year 1882, which again takes up the lowest position in the order. Of course it must be taken into account that the infantile mortality of towns always compares unfavourably with that of country districts; but even this consideration does not place Launceston in a less favourable aspect when we compare it with the district of Hobart, which is more densely populated. It must be stated, however, that the number of deaths in Launceston district for 1882, viz., 428, is unusually high, being 20·5 per cent. above the previous year, and 24·4 per cent. above the average of the last decade.

Causes of Death.

In reviewing the causes of death we are at once impressed by the extreme healthiness of the colonies as contrasted with older countries, and we are again arrested by the prominent position which "old age" in Tasmania occupies among the specified causes of death. This is best realised by making a comparison of 20 of

the principal specific causes in England, Scotland, Victoria, and Tasmania :—

Comparison showing Twenty of the specific Causes of Death, in the order of their fatality, in England, Scotland, Victoria, and Tasmania.

No.	England, 1879.		Scotland, 1879.	
	Cause of Death.	Deaths per 100,000 living.	Cause of Death.	Deaths per 100,000 living.
1	Bronchitis	285	Bronchitis	255
2	Phthisis	204	Phthisis	231
3	Heart disease, &c.	150	Heart disease, &c.	140
4	Age	118	Age	140
5	Pneumonia	108	Pneumonia	85
6	Atrophy and debility	99	Whooping-cough*	69
7	Convulsions	95	Atrophy	68
8	Scarlet fever*	70	Dev. diseases of children	66
9	Apoplexy	57	Paralysis	59
10	Cancer	51	Hydrocephalus	55
11	Whooping cough*	51	Apoplexy	54
12	Paralysis	51	Cancer	50
13	Premature Birth	47	Scarlatina*	44
14	Diarrhœa*	43	All fevers*	37
15	Measles*	37	Diarrhœa	37
16	Hydrocephalus	32	Liver diseases	32
17	Tabes Mesenterica	30	Tabes Mesenterica	30
18	Cephalitis	29	Convulsions	29
19	Brain disease	29	Diphtheria*	24
20	Liver disease	27	Fractures and contusions	23

(*continued.*)

No.	Victoria, 1881.		Tasmania, 1881–82.		
	Cause of Death.	Deaths per 100,000 living.	Cause of Death.	Deaths per 100,000 living.	
				1881.	1882.
1	Phthisis	138	Old age	203	255
2	Atrophy and debility	84	Convulsions	73	104
3	Diseases of Organs of circulation	84	Phthisis	96	102
4	Accidents	84	Heart disease, &c.	100	99
5	Diarrhœa	77	Atrophy and debility	82	93
6	Pneumonia	74	Pneumonia	58	61
7	Bronchitis	63	Diarrhœa*	50	57
8	Old age	48	Cancer	47	49
9	Cancer	40	Brain disease, &c.	36	49
10	Typhoid fever, &c.*	40	Paralysis	38	45
11	Premature birth	37	Bronchitis	57	43
12	Diseases of nervous system not classed	37	Apoplexy	37	40

* Zymotic.

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No.	Victoria, 1881. Cause of Death.	Victoria, 1881. Deaths per 100,000 living.	Tasmania, 1881-82. Cause of Death.	Tasmania, 1881-82. Deaths per 100,000 living. 1881.	1882.
13	Apoplexy - -	35	Congestion of lungs, &c. -	29	39
14	Convulsions - -	33	Dropsy - - -	22	33
15	Diseases of liver not classed - -	32	Typhoid, &c.* - -	28	29
16	Cephalitis - -	29	Liver disease, &c. -	32	28
17	Childbirth and metria -	27	Cephalitis - -	11	28
18	Congestion of lungs, &c.	23	Premature birth - -	23	25
19	Enteritis - -	22	Fractures, contusions, &c.	29	24
20	Paralysis - -	21	Scarlatina* - -	6	16
			Measles* - -	38	Nil.

* Zymotic.

It will be observed, in the foregoing comparative table, that the year 1882 in Tasmania compares unfavourably with the preceding year. There has been an increase in the number of deaths from the principal specific causes as follows:—

Increases as compared with 1881.

Old age - - -	52	deaths per 100,000.
Convulsions - -	31	do.
Phthisis - - -	6	do.
Atrophy and Debility -	11	do.
Pneumonia - -	3	do.
Diarrhœa - -	7	do.
Cancer - - -	2	do.
Brain disease - -	13	do.
Paralysis - -	7	do.
Apoplexy - -	3	do.
Congestion of Lungs -	10	do.
Dropsy - - -	11	do.
Typhoid - -	1	do.
Cephalitis - -	17	do.
Premature Birth -	2	do.
Scarlatina - -	10	do.

Among some of the principal causes there has been a decrease as compared with the previous year, as follows:—

Heart Disease - -	1	death per 100,000.
Bronchitis - -	14	deaths per 100,000.
Liver disease - -	4	do.
Fractures, contusions, &c.	5	do.
Measles - - -	38	do.

DEATHS AS AFFECTED BY AGE AND SEASON.

Analysis of the principal causes of Death affecting Children, Middle Age, and Old Age during the Year 1882.

NUMBER OF DEATHS.

—	Season most Prevalent.	Numerical. Ages. 0-5.	5-60.	60- over.	All Ages.	Centesimal. Ages. 0-5.	5-60.	60- over.	All Ages.
I.—*Principal Diseases chiefly affecting Children and Old People.*									
1. Diseases of the nervous system— Convulsions, brain disease, &c. - -	Feb. to Sept.	132	99	97	328	6·98	5·23	5·12	17·33
2. Diseases of the respiratory system— Bronchitis, pneumonia, lung disease, &c. - - - -	Dec., July.	87	57	52	196	4·60	3·01	2·75	10·36
Total Group I. -	- - -	219	156	149	524	11·58	8·24	7·87	27·69
II.—*Principal Diseases chiefly affecting Children.*									
1. Miasmatic diseases (part)— Croup, diarrhœa, cholera, scarlatina	Dec. to May	118	42	18	178	6·24	2·22	·95	9·41
2. Atrophy and debility	Nov. to March.	99	13	—	112	5·23	·69	—	5·92
3. Developmental diseases of children— Premature birth, teething, &c. -	- - -	52	—	—	52	2·75	—	—	2·75
Total Group II. -	- - -	269	55	18	342	14·22	2·91	·95	18·08
III.—*Principal Diseases chiefly affecting Youth and Middle Age.*									
1. Typhoid, &c. - -	Feb. to April	—	32	—	32	—	1·69	—	1·69
2. Tubercular diseases— Phthisis, &c. - -	March, April May, Dec.	12	123	9	144	·63	6 50	·48	7·61
3. Paramenia, childbirth - - - - -	- - -	—	15	—	15	—	·79	—	·79
4. Violence - - - -	- - -	17	51	19	87	·90	2·70	1·00	4·60
Total Group III. -	- - -	29	221	28	278	1·53	11·68	1·48	14·69
IV.—*Principal Causes of Death affecting Old Age.*									
1. Old age - - - -	July, Oct., Dec.	—	—	308	308	—	—	16·28	16·28
2. Diathetic diseases— Dropsy, cancer, &c. -	Feb., Sept.	3	57	58	118	·16	3·01	3·07	6·24
3. Diseases of urinary organs and other local diseases - - - -	- - -	2	19	22	43	·11	1·00	1·16	2·27
4. Heart disease, &c. -	Feb. to Nov.	2	55	70	127	·10	2·91	3·70	6·71
Total Group IV. -	- - -	7	131	458	596	·37	6·92	24·21	31·50
V.—*All other Diseases of lesser importance affecting all Ages* -	- - -	107	6	39	152	5·65	·32	2·07	8·04
ALL CAUSES - -	Dec. to Feb.	631	569	692	1,892	33·35	30·07	36·58	100·
Unspecified - -	- - -	—	—	—	14	—	—	—	—
		—	—	—	1,906	—	—	—	—

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The above synopsis sufficiently conveys to the mind the nature of the principal causes of death, and also shows how far the latter are determined by age and season in Tasmania.

Thus the diseases affecting principally the extremes of youth and age, Group I., cause 524 deaths, or 27·69 per cent. of the deaths from all causes (specified) for the year 1882, of which age-groups 0–5 and 60 and over contribute respectively 219 and 149 deaths. The months during which the diseases in this group were most prevalent were—February to September, convulsions, brain disease, &c.; December and July, bronchitis, pneumonia, lung disease, &c.

In the next Group II. principal diseases chiefly affecting children, there are 342 deaths, or 18·08 per cent. of the whole, 269 of which occur in age-group 0–5. The Miasmatic diseases, croup, diarrhœa, cholera, scarlatina, &c., cause 178 deaths, or 9·41 per cent. of the whole. The warm portion of the year, December to May, as usual, appears to favour the development of the Miasmatic diseases, the deaths within these six months representing 68 per cent. of the whole Miasmatic order for the year. Atrophy and debility come next in rank, represented by 112 deaths; the season during which deaths most prevail being from November to March, *i.e.*, the warm months of the year. The developmental diseases, premature birth, teething, &c., cause 52 deaths, or 2·75 per cent. of deaths from all causes.

In Group III., principal diseases chiefly affecting youth and middle age, typhoid, prevailing from February to April, causes 32 deaths, or 1·69 per cent. of deaths from all causes. The tubercular diseases, however (phthisis, &c.), cause a greater number of deaths within this group, being represented by 144 deaths, the most of which, 123, occur in the age-group 5–60 years. Paramenia and childbirth, and violence rank next in order, and are represented respectively by 15 and 87 deaths. Of course there is a much larger proportion of persons (77·93 per cent. of the whole) in this group exposed to risk of accident, and this accounts for the greater number of deaths from "violence."

In Group IV., principal causes of death affecting old age, "Old Age" alone represents 308, or 16·28 per cent. of deaths from all causes. This is the highest proportion due to "the final limit of a healthy human life" that I can find in the statistics of former periods in Tasmania or in any other country. The other principal causes affecting old age, dropsy, cancer, heart disease, &c., are represented by 288 deaths. These, together with the minor causes and diseases affecting other age-groups, make a total of 36·58 per cent. of deaths from all causes for ages over 60 years. This is a very extraordinary proportion, and is best realised by again con-

trasting it with deaths in the same age-group in England, Scotland, and the neighbouring colonies:— TASMANIA.

Deaths over 60 *Years of Age.*

—	—	Per centage of total Deaths.	Average.	—	—	Per centage of total Deaths.	Average.
1. Queensland -	1881	7·26	13·84	6. England -	1881	24·19	26·24
2. New Zealand -	1881	10·50		7. Scotland -	1879	28·3	
3. South Australia - - -	1881	13·87		8. Tasmania -	1881	34·31	
4. Victoria - -	1881	18·51		Ditto -	1882	36·58	
5. New South Wales - -	1881	19·08					

Thus the total ages over 60 years in Tasmania is, proportionally, 164·3 per cent. above the average of the neighbouring colonies, and even exceeds the average of England and Scotland for the years stated by 39·4 per cent.

In this division it may be interesting to note the principal specific causes of deaths in respect of infants under one year of age in greater detail. During the year 1882, 419 infants—231 males and 188 females—died, chiefly from the following specific causes, which are arranged in the order of fatality:—

	Deaths per 10,000 births.
Atrophy and debility - - -	230
Convulsions - - - -	205
Diarrhœa - - - - -	108
Premature birth - - - -	74
Pneumonia - - -	57
Congestion of lungs, &c. - - -	49
Bronchitis - - - - -	47
Teething - - - - -	34
Want of breast-milk - - -	20
Dysentery - - - - -	20
All other Causes - - - -	247

The following is an abstract taken from the decennial return of deaths under the principal classes, which gives a general view

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of the fluctuations which have taken place in particular groups of diseases within the ten years, 1873–1882.

Mortality from the various Classes of Diseases.

	Rate per 1,000 Persons.			Increase or Decrease, 1882, compared with—	
	1882.	1881.	Average of last Decade.	1881.	Average of last Decade.
Zymotic diseases -	2·13	2·45	3·12	−0·32	−0·99
Constitutional diseases	2·17	1·91	2·11	+0·26	+0·06
Local diseases -	6·63	5·95	6·63	+0·68	—
Developmental diseases, including deaths from "old age" -	4·03	3·44	3·39	+0·59	+0·64
Violent deaths -	·73	·89	·97	−0·16	−0·24
Unspecified - -	·13	·13	·15	—	− ·02
	15·82	14·77	16·37	+1·05	−0·55

The increases, as compared with the previous year and with the average of last decade, are chiefly due to the gradual increase in the number of deaths from old age,

It is satisfactory to note that deaths from zymotic diseases have been gradually decreasing during the last few years. There have been less deaths in 1882 from this class than in any former year of the last decade.

That Tasmania occupies a most satisfactory position in respect of conditions favourable to a healthy life may be seen from comparisons made with other countries in the following table, especially so with regard to deaths from zymotic causes, which are more particularly associated with defects in the sanitary condition of all countries.

Mortality from the various classes of Diseases in England and in the Australasian Colonies compared.

NUMBER OF DEATHS PER 100,000 LIVING.

	Zymotic Diseases.	Constitutional Diseases.	Local Diseases.	Developmental Diseases.	Violent Deaths.	Unspecified.
England, 1880 - -	413	344	931	284	68	8
Victoria, 1881 - -	280	224	608	201	97	—
New South Wales, 1881 - - -	283	208	621	271	118	8
South Australia, 1882 - - -	360	200	550	280	70	—
Queensland, 1881 -	412	214	483	235	143	13
New Zealand, 1881 -	249	174	434	156	96	5
Tasmania, 1882 -	213	217	663	403*	73	13

* Of this class in Tasmania, 63 per cent. of the deaths are due to "old age" alone.

Thus Tasmania stands in the peculiar position of having the lowest rate of deaths from zymotic diseases, and the highest in respect of deaths from developmental causes. As 63 per cent. of the latter, however, in Tasmania is composed of deaths from "old age" alone, the higher rate for developmental diseases in this case and the lower rate for zymotic diseases are both good indices of the noted salubrity of our climate.

Deaths and Diseases in Hospitals.

The following is an abstract showing the number of deaths which occurred in the various hospitals during the year 1882, together with the number of cases treated as in-patients and out-patients.

Deaths and Diseases in Hospitals, 1882.

—	Zymotic Diseases.	Constitutional Diseases.	Local Diseases.	Developmental Diseases.	Violence.	Undefined.	Total.
Cases treated—							
In-patients, No.	597	148	868	86	320	17	2,036
Out-patients, No.	482	128	1,051	244	449	10	2,364
Total	1,079	276	1,919	330	769	27	4,400
Per cent. to total	24·5	6·3	43·6	7·5	17·5	0·6	100
Deaths—							
In hospitals, No.	21	41	113	16	21	—	212
Per cent. to total	9·9	19·3	53·3	7·6	9·9	—	100
Per cent. to cases treated as in-patients	3·5	27·7	13·0	18·6	6·5	—	10·4

Thus it would appear that out of 2,036 cases treated as in-patients during the year, 212 persons died, being 10·4 per cent. of the total number of cases. Cases of constitutional diseases, although only representing 6·3 per cent. of the whole, contribute the highest per-centage of deaths, viz., 27·7 per cent.

Deaths in Public Institutions in Hobart and Launceston.

There were 366 deaths registered as occurring in the general hospitals, gaols, invalid and pauper establishments centred in Hobart and Launceston, of which 287 are registered in the district of Hobart and 79 in the district of Launceston. As the criminals and paupers of the whole island are centred in certain of these institutions, and as the number of deaths comprise 32·9 per cent. of the whole of the deaths in the two urban districts, it is necessary to keep them separate in making comparisons with death-rates in other districts, the death-rates of which are pro-

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portionally reduced by the transfer of aged and diseased persons to such centres. The following table gives further particulars regarding the proportion of deaths under the various age-groups :—

Deaths in the Public Institutions situated in the Districts of Hobart and Launceston, 1882.

NUMBER OF DEATHS UNDER EACH AGE-GROUP.

District.	0–5 years.	5–60 years.	60 years and over.	Ages not defined.	All Ages.
Deaths in public institutions :—	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Hobart - - -	3	74	210	—	287
Launceston - - -	1	35	40	3	79
Total - - -	4	109	250	3	366
Per cent. to total deaths -	1·1	29·9	68·3	0·7	100

Thus it is shown that aged people contribute 68·3 of the total number of deaths in these public institutions. This is largely due to the deaths occurring in the invalid establishments for aged and infirm persons, which represent 48·6 per cent. of the total deaths in all the public institutions, specified as follows :—

—	No. of Inmates on 31st December.	No. of Deaths 1882.	—	No. of Inmates on 31st December.	No. of Deaths, 1882.
Hobart :—			Launceston :—		
New Town pauper establishment - -	599	135	Gaol - - -	84	2
Brickfields pauper establishment - -	*	28	Hospital - -	41	62
Hospital for insane -	63	7	Invalid depôt, males -	133	15
General hospital -	59	112	„ „ females	19	—
Gaol for males - -	135	3	Total Launceston -	277	79
„ females - -	29	2			
Total Hobart -	876	287	Grand total -	1,153	366

* Transferred to New Town pauper establishment before the close of the year 1882.

Marriages.

The number of marriages celebrated in Tasmania during the year 1882—969—is the highest upon record, relatively and absolul ey, since the prosperous Victorian gold-rush years, 1852–55, being 172 above the average of the last decade, and 113 above the preceding year. This is in accord with all other indices pointing to a gradual improvement in the material welfare of the Colony. That the marriage rate is an index of considerable value

in this respect is testified to by the Registrar-General of England in the following terms:—"For that the marriage-rate does really reflect with very considerable accuracy the condition of the public walfare is not a mere *à priori* assumption, but a conclusion founded on the observed correspondence of its fluctuations with those of indisputable measures of commercial activity, such as the total value of imported and exported merchandize."—p. vi., Annual Report, 1880.

In a general way it is interesting to note how faithfully, notwithstanding difference in degree, our own marriage-rate corresponds with the variations of our export and import trade during the last 32 years.

Period.	Marriages per 1,000 Persons.	Total Value export and import Trade per Head.
		£
Average of five years, 1851–55* - -	18·85	44·17
Do. 1856–60 - -	9·40	28·51
Do. 1861–65 - -	7·24	19·66
Do. 1866–70 - -	6·30	16·78
Do. 1871–75 - -	6·37	18·78
Do. 1876–80 - -	7·51	24·01
Year 1881 - - - 7·29 } Mean Year 1882 - - - 8·03 }	7·66	26·22

* The period when, owing to the discovery of gold in Victoria, an extraordinary development of trade in Tasmania took place.

Thus there is a broad agreement between the marriage-rate and the total value of import and export trade in Tasmania when taken for periods of two or more years. There are other influences which produce minor conflicting variations when lesser periods are compared, but it is clear upon the whole, as indicated by the Registrar-General of England, that improvement in trade and material welfare is at once marked by an increase in the marriage rate.

Of course, as clearly demonstrated by Mr. Hayter (Year Book, 1881–2, pp. 165–166), the marriage-rate, *per se*, based as it is upon the total population, is not always a reliable index in comparisons with different times or countries, "especially in young "communities, in the composition of which great and sudden "changes sometimes take place in consequence of accessions "of population from without, followed by periods in which "immigration is at a standstill." Mr. Hayter further states that the more correct method for calculating the marriage-rate under such circumstances would be "to compare the marriages "with the number of marriageable males." By this method he had eliminated various disturbing influences which often caused conflicting results when used as an index of prosperity.

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The following table illustrates the value of his observations:—

—	Population.	Unmarried Males over 20.	Marriages.	Proportion of Marriages.	
				Per 1,000 Population.	Per 1,000 Unmarried Males.
Victoria, 1854 - -	234,361	70,865	3,696	15·77	52·16
„ 1857 - -	383,668	95,427	4,465	11·64	46·79
„ 1861 - -	513,896	106,940	4,528	8·81	42·34
„ 1871 - -	712,263	89,921	4,715	6·62	52·43
„ 1881 - -	849,438	99,824	5,732	6·75	57·42
New Zealand, 1874 -	320,687	43,853	2,828	8·81	64·48
„ 1881 -	—	60,123	3,281	6·65	54·57
Tasmania, 1881 -	117,314	11,889	856	7·29	71·99
„ 1882 -	120,701	*12,222	969	8·03	79·28

* Estimated.

It may still be matter open for consideration, however, whether the presence of marriageable males in large numbers in any locality may not in itself indicate more than usual activity in local industries causing prosperity and its usual concomitants.

It will be seen from the comparison that during the years 1881 and 1882 the marriage-rate in Tasmania is higher than in Victoria or New Zealand, whether calculated in relation to "marriageable males" or to "total population."

The following table shows in the order of the higher marriage-rate the principal districts and divisions in Tasmania for the year 1882, viz.:—

——	Marriages.	Marriages per 1,000 Persons.
Urban districts—		
Launceston - - - -	218	12·61
Hobart - - - - -	298	10·60
Total urban districts - -	516	11·37
Country districts—		
North-Western Division - -	136	7·15
South-Western Division - -	24	6·62
North-Eastern Division - - -	106	5·76
South-Eastern Division - - -	102	5·52
Midland Division - - -	85	5·36
Total Country districts -	453	6·01
Total for Tasmania - -	969	8·03

Thus the marriage-rate in the two urban districts exceeds that in the country districts by 89·2 per cent. No doubt the absence of officiating clergymen in many country districts cause a higher rate in the urban districts than would otherwise occur. On closer examination it will also be observed that upon the whole the northern districts show a higher marriage-rate than the southern, the midland district taking up the lowest position. If the conclusions indicated by the Registrar-General of England be of value

as regards the subdivisions of a country, it would indicate that the mining centres of the north have locally, by their greater prosperity, influenced the marriage rate.

The following is the order of religious denominations, &c., in relation to the number of marriages celebrated by each :—

	No.	Per cent. to Total.
Church of England - - - -	309	31·90
Congregationalists - - - -	170	17·54
Wesleyan Methodist Church - -	130	13·42
Church of Rome - - - -	129	13·33
Free Church of Scotland - - -	74	7·63
Church of Scotland - - - -	59	6·10
Baptist Church - - - -	37	3·81
Primitive Methodist Church - - -	36	3·71
United Methodist Free Church - -	9	·92
Christian Mission - - - -	7	·72
Wesleyan Free Church - - -	4	·41
By deputy registrars - - - -	2	·21
Jewish Church, 1; Society of Friends, 1; Church of Christ, 1 - - -	3	·30
	969	100·00

Vaccination.

The number of persons vaccinated during the year is 1,718—1,674 being successful. The number vaccinated during 1881 is 12,870. This shows a great falling off, and proves the value of the remarks made by my worthy predecessor, Mr. Nowell, in last year's report, where he states: "When the fears of the people "are strongly excited by the near approach of small-pox, and the "danger of its actual coming to their homes, they will be eager to "rush to the vaccinator, but when the panic is over they at once "relapse into their usual state of apathetic indifference." It is to be hoped that the better provisions of the new Act, which came practically into force in the beginning of this year, will produce better results in the future.

Registration.

During the year 1882 there have been added to the Tasmanian registers 7,987 names, as follows:—

	No.
Persons married - - - -	1,938
Births - - - - -	4,043
Deaths - - - - -	1,906
	7,987

There were issued during the year 289 certificates of births and deaths, and the searches made number 226. The fees collected amounted to 66*l.* 8*s.*

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INTERCHANGE.

Exports and Imports.

The total colonial and foreign trade of Tasmania for 1882, as represented by imports and exports, is shown as follows :—

	£	Per head. £ s. d.
Imports - -	1,670,872	13 16 10
Exports - -	1,587,389	13 3 0
Total -	3,258,261	26 19 10

Taken together, the imports and exports for 1882 greatly exceed in value those for any previous year, if we exclude the two exceptional years 1853 and 1854, when, from adventitious circumstances, Tasmania became the emporium of Australian trade. As compared with the year 1881 the imports show an increase of 239,728*l.*, or 16·75 per cent.; and the exports an increase of 31,813*l.*, or 2·04 per cent.

There are various disturbing influences in making comparisons between any two particular years; and the only satisfactory mode of measuring the tendencies of trade by the means of export and import values is to compare the means of successive periods of greater duration than one year. The following table has been prepared upon this method. The extent and general tendency of our export and import trade of Tasmania during the last sixty-one years, with the exception of the first and last broken periods, is based upon the mean yearly value of each succeeding quinquennial period; thus —

Mean yearly Value of successive Quinquennial or lesser Periods since 1822.

	Mean yearly Value.			Mean yearly Value of both Imports and Exports per square mile.
	Imports.	Exports.	Both.	
	£	£	£	£
Years 1822–25 inclusive	47,029	30,249	77,278	2·94
Years 1826–30 „ -	204,248	93,805	298,153	11·37
Years 1831–35 „ -	421,913	195,364	617,277	23·54
Years 1836–40 „ -	711,916	616,798	1,328,714	50·68
Years 1841–45 „ -	621,649	496,783	1,118,432	42·66
Years 1846–50 „ -	622,451	569,255	1,191,706	45·45
Years 1851–55 „ -	1,587,994	1,358,728	2,946,722	112·41
Years 1856–60 „ -	1,254,824	1,174,027	2,428,951	92·65
Years 1861–65 „ -	876,902	936,263	1,813,165	69·16
Years 1866–70 „ -	870,387	804,312	1,674,699	63·88
Years 1871–75 „ -	1,027,232	913,231	1,940,463	74·01
Years 1876–80 „ -	1,280,637	1,355,336	2,635,973	100·57
Year 1881 - -	1,431,144	1,555,576	2,986,720	113·91
Year 1882 - -	1,670,872	1,587,389	3,258,261	124·29

From the above table we can readily recognise five distinct periods marking the upward and downward tendency of the colonial and foreign trade of Tasmania.

The first period had a duration of 16 years (1825–1840), in which the combined values of imports and exports increased at an average rate of 2·98*l.* per square mile per year; the second period, from 1841 to 1850 inclusive (10 years), when the values gently declined at the average rate of 0·52*l.* per square mile per year; the third period, from 1851 to 1855 inclusive (5 years), when, owing to the gold discovery in Victoria, the values suddenly increased at an average rate of 13·39*l.* per square mile per year; the fourth period, from 1856 to 1870 (15 years), marks an interval covering many important changes in the internal and external affairs of the Colony; among which may be noticed the withdrawal of English troops, and the consequent lessening of Imperial expenditure and local consumption. At the same time the temporary advantage gained during the former period (the third) was gradually passing away owing to the rapid development of Victoria. This Colony during the early part of the fourth period was largely dependent upon Tasmania for agricultural products, but, notwithstanding its increasing population, agriculture made progress in Victoria at a greater proportionate rate, and the effect of which was, ere the fourth period closed, to convert the principal consumer of our surplus agricultural products into one of our most formidable rivals in the grain markets of Australia.

It is not surprising, therefore, to find that during the interval of the fourth period the value of our export and import trade gradually declined at an average rate of 3·23*l.* per square mile per year; and that the close of it was marked by general depression, financial difficulties, and even (1870) a decline in population.

From 1870 we enter upon the fifth period, when, owing to the introduction of railways, the eradication of scab in sheep, but principally to the discovery and development of our tin and gold resources, there has been a continuous upward tendency, at an average rate of 5·03 per square mile per year.

Although the total nominal value of imports and exports during the years 1853–54 respectively exceeds even the nominal value of imports and exports during 1882, it must not be inferred that the greater value is a fair index of the relative productiveness of the two periods so far as Tasmania is concerned; for if we analyse the exports during 1854, we will find that of the 1,428,629*l.* total exports there was only a sum of about 838,030*l.*, or about 58 per cent. of the whole, representing the actual manufactures or produce of Tasmania; the remainder, equal to 42 per cent. of total exports, being re-exports, the produce of manufactures of other countries. It is also important in making comparisons to note

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that the effect of enhanced prices during the gold-rush period was such that the quantities then exported at a nominal value of 838,000*l.* would only represent about 555,580*l.* of the same class of goods exported during the year 1882. From these considerations, notwithstanding the larger nominal values of 1853–54, it is clear that Tasmania, in the year 1882, not only supplies locally a population of double the number, but, in addition, she exports in the same year goods (the produce of the Colony) which, though only of the nominal value of 1,578,517*l.*, actually represents about three times the extent of the produce of the Colony exported in 1854.

Thus it is shown that mere references to figures, without careful analysis and qualification, are apt to lead to very erroneous conclusions. Before satisfactory comparisons can be made as regards production and balance of trade, it is necessary among other things to study the approximate effects produced by—

1. The various methods employed by importers, exporters, and Customs authorities in declaring nominal values.
2. The effect of different tariffs and prices, and the local effects of seasons or unusual disturbances.
3. The stimulating effects of foreign loans for the construction of public works, such as railways, roads, and bridges,—first upon imports during construction, and afterwards upon exports, which are gradually augmented by returns from the newly created centres of production, in which of course are included exports representing the interest upon foreign loans so expended.
4. The relative proportion of goods imported for home consumption and goods destined for re-export in the same or in a different form, and in regard to the latter to note the probable increase in value due to the employment of local capital and labour, and local products.
5. The relative proportion of local and foreign products and manufactures in total exports.
6. The allocation and distribution of the values due to shipping and commercial transit agencies.
7. The effects of natural resources; and in ratios, the effects of density of population and the extent of area.

These observations are sufficient to show that the interpretation of what may be considered the simple figures of ordinary statistical tables require some degree of care and skill. No table, however apparently simple, can be properly interpreted without qualification and discretion.

The nature and value of imports for the year 1882 are shown in the following table; and in order that the tendency of the last decade may be more comprehensively manifested, the various items

are contrasted not only with the previous year 1881, but also with the first year of the decade, 1873; thus—

Class.	1882.	1881.	1873.	1882, Increase or Decrease compared with			
				1881.		1873.	
				Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.
	NUMERICAL.						
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
I. Art and mechanic productions	356,333	261,720	132,482	94,613	—	223,851	—
II. Textile fabrics and dress	564,988	465,610	388,066	99,378	—	176,922	—
III. Foods, drinks, and stimulants	378,911	326,234	309,860	52,677	—	69,051	—
IV. Animal and vegetable substances	103,932	82,723	55,298	21,209	—	48,634	—
V. Minerals and metals	180,402	191,914	128,560	—	11,512	51,842	—
VI. Live animals and plants	17,299	32,783	21,998	—	15,484	—	4,699
VII. Miscellaneous matters	69,007	70,160	70,903	—	1,153	—	1,896
Total	1,670,872	1,431,144	1,107,167	239,728	—	563,705	—
	CENTESIMAL.						
I. Art and mechanic productions	21·32	—	11·96	36·15	—	168·97	—
II. Textile fabrics and dress	33·82	—	35·05	21·34	—	45·59	—
III. Foods, drinks, and stimulants	22·68	—	27·99	16·15	—	22·28	—
IV. Animal and vegetable substances	6·22	—	5·00	25·64	—	87·95	—
V. Minerals and metals	10·79	—	11·61	—	6·00	40·32	—
VI. Live animals and plants	1·04	—	1·99	—	47·45	—	21·68
VII. Miscellaneous	4·13	—	6·40	—	1·64	—	2·68
Total	100·00	—	100·00	16·75	—	50·91	—
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	
Total imports per head	13 16 10	12 4 0	10 13 10	1 16 10	—	3 3 0	—
Total imports per 100 square miles	6,373·72	5,459·25	—	—	—	—	—

As might be expected, the principal increase, nearly 170 per cent., within the decade, is in the imports of art and mechanic productions, which largely consist of machinery, tools, and implements. The following is the order of the classes of imports in regard to the greatest increase within the last decade:—

1. Art and mechanic productions.
2. Animal and vegetable substances (chiefly timber and paper).
3. Textile fabrics and dress.
4. Minerals and metals.
5. Food, drinks, and stimulants.

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There has been a considerable decrease in the importation of live animals and plants, which, together with stock returns, indicate that the local sources of production have more adequately met the demands of an increasing population.

Upon the whole, the value of imports during 1882 exceeds that of 1881 by 239,728*l.*, or 16·75 per cent.; that of 1873 by 563,705*l.* or 50·91 per cent.; and that of the average of the decade 1873–82, by 365,262*l.*, or 27·98 per cent. This continuous upward tendency within the decade is most gratifying, and the period may well be termed that of the renascence of the commercial history of Tasmania.

Direction of Imports.

It is difficult to arrive at the value of the import trade in respect of any particular country, the custom being to refer all imports, whether transhipments or re-exports, to the last port of clearance. Owing to the increasing facilities offered by steam communication, direct trade with Tasmania is falling off in favour of indirect trade principally through Victoria, which, from its geographical position, is our nearest point of junction with the great oceanic lines of steamers with Europe. The per-centage proportion of imports received through the last port of clearance is given as follows:—

Imports—Direction.

	1882.	1881.	Average of Decade, 1873–1882.
United Kingdom - - -	22·69	23·77	30·05
Victoria - - - -	60·98	60·05	54·37
New South Wales - -	6·42	7·52	6·42
Other British colonies - - -	8·65	8·12	8·64
Foreign countries - - -	1·26	0·54	0·52
Total imports - -	100·00	100·00	100·00

Thus, so far as imports are concerned, there has been a decided falling off proportionally in the direct trade with England, which has been diverted by the agencies already referred to in favour of indirect steam communication, principally *viâ* Victoria. It is estimated that of the 1,018,865*l.*, which is nominally set down as imports from Victoria, only about 24 per cent. is the actual produce of that Colony. The remainder, 76 per cent., being somewhat as follows:—

Re-exports, the produce of Great Britain and other countries - - -	39	per cent.
Transhipment, the produce of Great Britain and other countries - - -	37	ditto
	76	ditto

Exports, Direction and Extent.

The nature and value of Exports for the year 1882, together with comparisons with the years 1873 and 1881, are given as follows:—

Class.	1882.	1881.	1873.	1882, Increase or Decrease, compared with			
				1881.		1873.	
				Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.
	NUMERICAL.						
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
I. Art and mechanic productions	19,564	—	—	—	—	—	—
II. Textile fabrics and dress	2,378	—	—	—	—	—	—
III. Food, drinks, and stimulants	401,244	246,849	307,877	154,395	—	93,367	—
IV. Animal and vegetable substances	590,172	655,914	490,533	—	65,742	99,639	—
V. Minerals and metals	522,912	587,028	15,529	—	64,116	507,383	—
VI. Live animals and plants	47,817	43,060	32,168	4,757	—	15,649	—
VII. Miscellaneous matters	3,302	22,725	47,449	—	—	—	—
Total	1,597,389	1,555,576	893,556	31,813	—	693,833	—
	CENTESIMAL.						
I. Art and mechanic productions	1·23	—	—	—	—	—	—
II. Textile fabrics and dress	0 15	—	—	—	—	—	—
III. Food, drinks, and stimulants	24·73	15·87	34·45	62·55	—	42·90	—
IV. Animal and vegetable substances	37·72	42·17	54·90	—	10·02	20·31	—
V. Minerals and metals	32·94	37·73	1·74	—	10·92	3,267·32	—
VI. Live animals and plants	3·02	2·77	3·60	11·05	—	48·63	—
VII. Miscellaneous matters	0·21	1·49	5·31	—	—	—	—
Total	100·00	100·00	100·00	2·04	—	77·65	—
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Total exports per head	13 3 0	13 5 2	8 12 7	—	0 2 2	4 10 5	—
Total exports per square mile	60·55	59·33	34·08	1·21	—	26·46	—

The following table gives the per cent. proportion of exports to various countries, so far as the customs return "Entered out for" gives indication of the ultimate destination of the various articles.

Gold, tin, and wool alone make up 50 per cent. of our export trade, and the greater portion of the articles named, although

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ultimately shipped for the United Kingdom, are in the following table referred to the immediate ports for which the vessels were "cleared."

Exports, Direction.

——	1882.	1881.	Average of Decade, 1873-1882.
United Kingdom - - -	24·95	32·92	41·98
Victoria - - - -	32·79	30·20	27·38
New South Wales - - -	35·40	28·82	21·15
Other British colonies - - -	6·83	8·01	9·40
Foreign countries - - -	0·03	0·05	0·09
Total exports - -	100·00	100·00	100·00

It will be observed, in comparing the relative figures of the average of the decade with those of 1882, that direct trade with England has greatly fallen off in favour of indirect trade *viâ* New South Wales and Victoria. The former Colony's trade with Tasmania has wonderfully expanded within the decade. During the earlier part the order of importance of the principal countries was as follows :—1. United Kingdom; 2. Victoria; 3. New South Wales. In 1882 this order was completely inverted, New South Wales taking up the first position. No doubt the New South Wales tariff favours the export thither of our jams, fruit, and other natural products, and our tin trade, which ultimately is destined for the English market, naturally follows the general trade.

From the foregoing tables it will be perceived that the value of exports during 1882 exceeds that of 1881 by 31,813*l.*, or 2 · 04 per cent., and exceeds the first year of the decade (1873) by 693,833, which represents an increase of 77 · 65 per cent. This remarkable expansion within the decade is clearly shown to be the result of the discovery and development of our mineral resources (tin and gold), which began to assume importance as an export in the year 1876. No better index of the effect of this new industry upon our export trade can be got than that of the comparison of its per-centage to total exports in the years 1873 and 1882 respectively. In the former year Class V.—Minerals and Metals—only represented 1 · 74 per cent. of total exports (893,556*l.*), while in 1882 the same class actually represents 32 · 94 per cent., or nearly a third of the total exports, which amounted to 1,587,389*l.* In relation to area within the same period, the total imports increased from 34 · 08*l.* per square mile to 60 · 55*l.* per square mile; and in relation to population, the increase is equal to 4*l.* 10*s.* 5*d.* per head of the mean population of Tasmania in the year 1882.

While, for the purpose of measuring the progress of external trade, it is necessary to employ some common standard, such as "per head of population," or "per square mile," it cannot be too strongly impressed that inferences as regards the internal progress of a country, based upon the extent of our external trade, as indicated by the ratios "per head," are often widely erroneous. The extent of an external trade depends, primarily, as much upon the number of our own wants as upon the extent of our powers locally to provide for them. Thus it is conceivable that the most savage and the most civilised countries might equally have a very small external trade as indicated by "per head" of population or otherwise. In the savage state this result would be chiefly due to the lack of knowledge and paucity of wants. In the other, the like result would be chiefly due to the perfection of powers within its own borders to supply nearly all local wants.

If this be conceded, we are also better enabled to understand how it is that, in the earlier stages of a colony's history, the "rate per head" of external trade is invariably higher than in its later and more developed stage, even although upon the whole there was a steady progress in the absolute values of imports and exports. In truth, under such circumstances, the test of the progress of external trade by "rate per head," unless taken into consideration with the "extent of territory per head," is utterly fallacious. As a general rule, the larger the extent of territory per head, *i.e.*, the less dense the population, the greater will the rate "per head" be as regards the value of exports when reckoned per square mile of territory. It will be seen that those countries which are most densely populated have also the greatest relative value of exports when reckoned per square mile of territory, and this mode of comparison, taken by itself, is not so apt to mislead as when measured by the factor "per head."

The following Tables, I., II., III., and IV., show more significantly the effect of making comparisons between different places; *e.g.*, Western Australia, with 31,798 square miles of territory for every 1,000 persons, exports, in the year 1882, produce of the Colony to the extent of 19*l.* 2*s.* 2*d.* per head of its population; while Victoria, with 97 square miles of territory to every 1,000 persons, only exports produce of the Colony to the extent of 14*l.* 2*s.* 4*d.* per head. It is also true, however, that Victoria has the premier position, and with 10·31 persons per square mile, exports produce of the Colony during the year 1882 to the extent of 143·03*l.* per square mile; while Western Australia, with 0·03 persons per square mile, only exports during the same year to the extent of 0·59*l.* per square mile of territory.

It is gratifying to note that Tasmania, in reference to exports of local produce and manufactures, stands second among the group of Australasian Colonies (60·21*l.*) in respect of value *per square mile of territory*, and a good third (4·67*l.*) in respect of density of population, being only less dense than the second in order of density (New Zealand) by 0·28 persons per square mile.

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I.—*Order of Colonies as regards Extent of Territory per* 1,000 *Persons, year* 1882.

	Miles Territory per 1,000 persons.
1. Western Australia - - -	31,798
2. South Australia - - -	3,078
3. Queensland - - - -	2,692
4. All Australasian Colonies - -	1,049
5. New South Wales - - -	380
6. Tasmania - - - -	214
7. New Zealand- - - -	202
8. Victoria - - - -	97

II.—*Order of Colonies as regards Value of Exports (Products of the Colony) per head,* 1882.

	£	s.	d.	
1. Western Australia - -	19	2	2	per head
2. New South Wales - -	16	11	3	„
3. Queensland - - -	14	11	2	„
4. All Australasian Colonies -	14	11	0	„
5. South Australia - -	14	9	2	„
6. Victoria - - -	14	2	4	„
7. Tasmania - - -	13	1	6	„
8. New Zealand - - -	12	5	7	„

III.—*Order of Colonies as regards Value of Exports (Products of the Colony) per Square Mile,* 1882.

	£	
1. Victoria - - -	143·03	per square mile.
2. Tasmania - -	60·21	„
3. New Zealand - -	59·89	„
4. New South Wales -	42·51	„
5. All Australasian Colonies -	13·58	„
6. Queensland - -	5·17	„
7. South Australia - -	4·63	„
8. Western Australia -	0·59	„

IV.—*Order of Colonies as regards Density of Population per Square Mile,* 1882.

1. Victoria - - -	10·311	persons per square mile.
2. New Zealand - -	4·958	„ „
3. Tasmania - - -	4·672	„ „
4. New South Wales - -	2·631	„ „
5. All Australasian Colonies -	0·953	„ „
6. Queensland - -	0·371	„ „
7. South Australia - -	0·324	„ „
8. Western Australia - -	0·031	„ „

Railways.

The following table gives specific information with regard to the working of the two systems of railways in Tasmania for the years 1881–2 :—

Particulars.		1881.		
		L. and W. Railway.	T. M. L. Railway.	All Railways.
Miles open	No.	45	122	167½
Miles worked	No.	52·2	133	167½
Total cost of construction and equipment	£	437,015	1,182,352	1,619,367
Total cost of construction and equipment per mile open	£	9711·4	9691·4*	9696·7
Passenger journeys	No.	102,495	179,106	281,601
Passenger journeys per 1,000 train miles	No.	1,005	597	701
Passenger journeys per mile	No.	2,277	1,346	1,686
Average fare per passenger	*s. d.*	2 0·34	3 7·55	3 0·56
Goods and mineral tonnage	No.	21,043	23,559	44,602
Goods and mineral tonnage per 1,000 train miles	No.	206·44	78·57	111·00
Goods and mineral tonnage per mile	No.	467	177	267
Average rate per ton	*s. d.*	6 9·03	11 7·47	9 3·90
Gross receipts	£	24,074	54,793	78,867
Working expenses	£	17,711	54,435	72,146
Profit on working	£	6,363	358	6,721
Per-centage profit on capital expenditure	£	1·45	0·03	0·41
Working expenses to gross receipts per cent.	£	73·57	99·34	91·47
Receipts per train mile	*s. d.*	4 8·7	3 7·86	3 11·11
„ „ mile	£	535·0	411·98	472·2
Working expenses per train mile	*s. d.*	3 5·7	3 7·57	3 7·09
„ „ mile worked	£	339·0	409·29	432·0
Train miles run	No.	101,934	299,839	401,773
Average train miles run per mile	No.	2,265	2,254	2,406
Locomotives	No.	5	14	19
Carriages, waggons, &c.	No.	141	232	373

* Also includes the cost of third rail Evandale to Launceston.

(*continued.*)

Particulars.		1882.		
		L. and W. Railway.	T. M. L. Railway.	All Railways.
Miles open	No.	45	122	167½
Miles worked	No.	51·6	133	167½
Total cost of construction and equipment	£	439,383	1,188,316	1,627,699
Total cost of construction and equipment per mile open	£	9,764·0	9,740·3*	9,746·7
Passenger journeys	No.	111,271	218,130	329,401
Passenger journeys per 1,000 train miles	No.	1,083	707	813
Passenger journeys per mile	No.	2,472	1,640	1,972
Average fare per passenger	*s. d.*	2 1·82	3 3·46	2 10·85
Goods and mineral tonnage	No.	24,966	29,256	54,222
Goods and mineral tonnage per 1,000 train miles	No.	243·00	94·90	133·00
Goods and mineral tonnage per mile	No.	554	219	324
Average rate per ton	*s. d.*	6 11·77	10 1·48	8 8·12
Gross receipts	£	27,686	60,328	88,014
Working expenses	£	17,808	58,179	75,980
Profit on working	£	9,878	2,156	12,034
Per-centage profit on capital expenditure	£	2·24	0·18	0·74
Working expenses to gross receipts per cent.	£	64·32	23·44	86·32
Receipts per train mile	*s. d.*	5 4·7	3 11·90	4 4·15
„ „ mile	£	615·0	453·59	527·0
Working expenses per train mile	*s. d.*	3 5·6	3 10·19	3 9·02
„ „ mile worked	£	341·5	437·38	454·9
Train miles run	No.	102,739	308,281	405,020
Average train miles run per mile	No.	2,283	2,273	2,425
Locomotives	No.	5	14	19
Carriages, waggons, &c.	No.	142	247	389

* Also includes the cost of third rail Evandale to Launceston.

It is reported that no serious casualty has occurred during the year, and that no passenger has been killed by any accident since the lines were opened for traffic. This is surprising, seeing that in the year 1882 alone it is estimated that the distance travelled on rail by passengers is equivalent to 5,893,810 miles travelled by one person.

Tramways.

Besides the railways there are also two important horse tramways, belonging to private companies, open to the public for traffic, one of which, the Emu Bay Tramway, is about to be converted into a 3ft. 6in. railway, suited for ordinary steam locomo-

tives. No particulars have been furnished with reference to former periods, and consequently comparisons cannot be made. The following particulars are given, which may be studied with much advantage by all who are interested in opening up mining or thinly-populated districts where it might be considered premature to maintain a regular train service, with the more costly gradients, curves, and rails suited for steam motors :—

——		Don Tramway.	Emu Bay Tramway.	All Tramways.
Gauge - - - - -		4′ 6″	3′ 0″	—
Rails - - - - -		Wooden	Wooden	Wooden
Miles open - - -	No.	13	48	61
Cost of construction and equipment - - - -	£	8,082	58,603	66,685
Cost of construction and equipment per mile - -	£	621·69	1,220·89	1,093·19
Gross receipts - - -	£	3,194*	17,501	20,695
Working expenses - -	£	3,127	13,238	16,365
Profit - - - -	£	67	4,263	4,330
Profit per cent. to capital expenditure - - -	£	0·82	7·27	6·49
Receipts per mile - -	£	245·7	364·6	339·2
Working expenses per mile -	£	240·5	275·7	268·2
„ „ horse -	£	156·3	165·4	163·6
Working expenses, per truck, train mile - - -	*s. d.*	2 0·5	2 11·3	2 8·4
Tons traffic - - -	No.	10,686	4,459	15,145
Passengers - --	No.	Carried free, not estimated.	3,836	—
Horses employed - -	No.	20	80	100
„ „ per mile - -		1·54	1·66	1·64
Men employed - - -	No.	14	53	67
„ „ per mile - -		1·07	0·87	1·10
Carriages, waggons, &c. - -		10	39	49
„ „ per mile -		0·77	0·81	0·80
Truck, train miles - - -		31,200	89,800	121,000
„ per mile - - - -		2,400	1,871	1,983

* Passengers carried free by the Don Company.

Maintenance of Roads.

There are 4,538 miles of road maintained throughout the Island, 3,834 of which are under the control of local road trusts, while 704 miles, principally macadamised, constitute the main road connexions, which are maintained and controlled by Main Road Boards working directly under the regulations of the general Government.

The cost of maintaining the roads under the road trusts during the year 1882 was 15,228*l.*, or 3·97*l.* per mile. Towards this expenditure, 6,885*l.*, equal to 45·2 per cent. of the total expenditure, was advanced during the year by the general Government as a grant in aid ; the remainder is provided for by the levy of a local road rate, which on the average amounted to a collection

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of 6·31 per £ of the value of the property within the various road districts, which is estimated at 423,520*l.* for 1882.

The cost of maintaining the main roads during the year was 11,297*l.*, or 16·04 per mile. Thus about 68 per cent. of the whole maintenance of roads throughout the Island falls upon the general Government.

Post Office.

During the year 1882, the business of the Post Office, as indicated by the numbers of letters, packets, and newspapers, &c. received and despatched, and the extent of service, has increased very materially as compared with previous years. This is shown in the following table, which gives also, for purposes of comparison, the figures relating to 1881 and 1873 :—

—	1882.	1881.	1873	Increase 1882 as compared with	
				1881.	1873.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Business—					
Letters received and despatched	3,363,331	2,994,148	1,397,011	369,183	1,966,320
Packets	227,156	187,555	144,913	39,601	182,243
Newspapers	2,257,018	2,049,949	1,204,292	207,069	1,052,726
Total	5,847,505	5,231,652	2,646,226	615,853	3,201,279
Service—					
Post Offices	209	206	154	3	45
Miles travelled by mail conveyance	692,970	689,100	371,000	3,870	321,970
	£	£	£	£	£
Receipts and expenditure—					
Receipts	22,917	20,143	11,500	2,774	11,417
Expenditure	32,095	29,613	16,792	2,482	15,303

Thus the letters, packets, and newspapers have increased 11·77 per cent. as compared with 1881, and 120·97 per cent. as compared with 1873, the first year of the decade just ended; while the service during 1882, as indicated by miles travelled by mail conveyances, has increased 8·38 per cent. as compared with the previous year, and 91·13 per cent. as compared with 1873.

The receipts, 22,917*l.*, for 1882 fall short of expenditure by 9,178*l.*, but exceed the receipts of the previous year by 2,774*l.*, or 13·77 per cent., and exceed the receipts of 1873 by 11,417*l.* or 99·28 per cent.

The expenditure, 32,095*l.*, has also increased correspondingly with the increase in business and the extended mail service. It exceeds 1881 by 2,482*l.*, or 8·38 per cent., and the year 1873 by 15,303*l.*, or 91·13 per cent.

The following comparison shows the expenditure for the three years referred to, as reckoned by the extent of miles travelled by mail conveyance :—

	1882.	1881.	1873.
	d.	*d.*	*d.*
Expenditure per mile travelled by mail conveyance - - - - -	11·11	7·01	7·44

The relative increase of 4·01*d* per mile as compared with 1881, and 3·67*d.* per mile as compared with 1873, may in part be accounted for by the fact that the expense of the new Post Office Savings Bank system has been included for the first time in the year 1882.

Post Office Money Orders.

The Money Order branch for the year 1882 shows still more remarkably the wonderful growth in the transactions of the Post Office during the decade.

Money Orders issued and paid, and Total Amount of Transactions, 1873 *and* 1882.

		1882.	1873.	Increase.	Decrease.
Orders - -	No.	51,743	12,106	39,637	—
Transactions - -	Amount £	168,087	45,301	122,786	—
Average amount per Order - -	„	3·24	3·74	—	0·50

Thus it will be seen that since the year 1873 the number of orders has increased as much as 327 per cent., and the gross amount of transactions has increased 271 per cent. This is a wonderful expansion within 10 years. The value of each order on the average, as might be anticipated, is slightly lower in 1882.

Telegraph System.

The Tasmanian telegraph system is rapidly extending year by year. In 1873 there were only 481 miles of line, including the cable between Tasmania and Victoria. In 1882 the number of miles wire, including cable, was 1,497 ; that is an increase of 211 per cent. within the decade. The following table gives full

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particulars of the various systems of telegraph in abstract form for the year 1882 :—

Particulars regarding the Tasmanian Telegraph System for the Year 1882.

—	Government Telegraphs.		Main Line Railway Telegraphs.	Cable Company.	Total Tasmania.
	Telegraph Department.	L. & W. Railway Department.			
Stations	69	8*	15	2	94*
Officers	98	9	22	13	142
Length of line open—					
Pole miles	870	45	133	—	1,048
Cable miles	—	—	—	180	180
Length of line being constructed	80	—	—	—	80
Length of wire	1,139	45	133	180	1,497
Length of wire being constructed	96	—	—	—	96
Cost of construction and equipment	40,223*l.*	1,000*l.*	4,695*l.*	70,000*l.*	115,918*l.*
Cost of construction and equipment per mile, pole-lines and cable	46*l.* 4*s.* 8*d.*	22*l.* 4*s.* 5·33*d.*	35*l.* 6*s.* 0·18*d.*	388*l.* 17*s.* 9·33*d.*	43*l.* 16*s.* 3·57*d.*
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Paid messages	149,804	7,735	5,722	37,191	153,615
Free messages	33,720†	12,092	—	—	45,812†
Total messages	183,524	19,827	460	37,191	199,427
Total messages per pole or cable mile	199·45	440·60	3·46	206·61	154·26
Total messages per wire or cable mile	161·13	440·60	3·46	206·61	133·35
Receipts	8,248*l.* 4*s.* 4*d.*	217*l.* 14*s.* 10*d.*	247*l.*	10,847*l.* 11*s.* 3*d.*	19,560*l.* 10*s.* 5*d.*
Working expenses	10,097*l.* 12*s.* 2*d.*	245*l.* 14*s.* 6*d.*	—	4,286*l.* 8*s.* 6*d.*	14,629*l.* 15*s.* 2*d.*
Working expenses per 100*l.* receipts	122·43*l.*	112·84*l.*	—	39·51*l.*	74·79*l.*
Profit	—	—	247*l.*	6,561*l.* 2*s.* 9*d.*	4,930*l.* 15*s.* 3*d.*
Loss	1,849*l.* 7*s.* 10*d.*	27*l.* 19*s.* 8*d.*	—	—	—
Receipts per pole mile	9*l.* 9*s.* 7·20*d.*	4*l.* 16*s.* 10·56*d.*	1*l.* 17*s.* 1·68*d.*	60*l.* 5*s.* 3·84*d.*	15*l.* 18*s.* 6·96*d.*
Receipts per wire mile	7*l.* 4*s.* 9·84*d.*	4*l.* 16*s.* 10·56*d.*	1*l.* 17*s.* 1·68*d.*	60*l* 5*s.* 3·84*d.*	13*l.* 1*s.* 4·56*d.*
Working expenses, pole mile	11*l.* 11*s.* 7·20*d.*	5*l.* 9*s.* 3·84*d.*	—	23*l.* 16*s.* 2·64*d.*	11*l.* 18*s.* 4·56*d.*
Working expenses, wire mile	8*l.* 16*s.* 10·80*d.*	5*l.* 9*s.* 3·84*d.*	—	23*l.* 16*s.* 2·64*d.*	9*l.* 15*s.* 5·28*d.*

* Includes one office open for the transaction of railway telegraph business solely.
† Includes 10,000 shipping messages (estimated).

It is satisfactory to note, notwithstanding that about 23 per cent. of the business consists of "free messages," the profits on working, upon the whole, represents 4·25 per cent. of the capital expended in construction and equipment.

Rates of Provisions, Wages, &c.

It is difficult to compare the rates and prices of different years. The tables referred to show a very inconsiderable variation from the prices and rates of the previous year.

FINANCE.

The tables, as grouped under this part, are intended to give a clear and comprehensive view of the finances of the Government of the Colony, whether general or local, and for convenience they

have also been arranged according to the following sub-divisions:— TASMANIA.

I. Finances relating to General Government.
II. Finances relating to Local Government.
III. Finances relating to General, Local, and Imperial Government.

The first subdivision relates chiefly to Treasury and departmental receipts and expenditure in connexion with general purposes; the second subdivision relates to the revenue and expenditure of local bodies such as road trusts, municipalities, marine boards, and such like which have the power to levy taxes for local purposes; and the third subdivision deals with the aggregates of such matters as are common to both general and local Government. It is requisite that the matters relating to general and local Government should be studied together, inasmuch as certain functions of the State are at one time placed under the control of the general Government, and at another time these same functions may be distributed under the control of several local bodies. In the Australasian Colonies, too, for the most part, certain functions, such as the construction and maintenance of railways, are managed by the State. In other countries these functions are carried ou only to a limited extent by the general Government, or they may be left altogether to private enterprise, as is the case in England. In comparisons made at different times and with different countries it is necessary to have these considerations exactly determined. For example, in comparing the public debt of the Australasian Colonies with England, it should be considered that of the 99,219,682*l.* stated as the public debt of the former on 31st December 1882, nearly the whole of 63,138,617*l.* should be eliminated as representing the cost of railway construction, now yielding a yearly profit of about four per cent. (3 · 62 per cent. during 1882) on cost of construction; and the prospective value of the railway lines alone regarded as an asset, may fairly be considered to cover the whole of the public debt of the Australasian Colonies.

These, and somewhat analogous considerations, also justify the course adopted in classifying the various sub-groups.

I.—Finances relating to General Government.

As pointed out by Mr. Nowell, there is considerable difficulty in dealing with the financial statement in respect of any one year until a period of one clear year has elapsed after the close of the nominal period. This is especially the case in respect of expenditure, because the law determines that all moneys provided and authorised to be expended in respect of any one year may be actually drawn upon up to the 31st December of the following year, and charged to the account of the year in which the particular expenditure was authorised, and not against the year in which they

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were disbursed by Treasury. The Treasury statement of general expenditure made up to the 31st March of the following year is only approximately correct, because an estimate has to be made of all outstanding accounts chargeable against the year which may be passed for payment during the following nine months. The statement of general revenue is not thus affected, and in nearly all cases may be taken as final. Receipts and expenditure in connexion with loans account are final, as the moneys are taken to account according to the actual date of Treasury receipts and disbursements.

General Revenue.

The general revenue for the year 1882 amounts to 551,215*l.* 15*s.*, and greatly surpasses that of any previous year, exceeding the revenue of the previous year by 46,205*l.* 8*s.* 10*d.*, or 9·15 per cent., and that of the year 1873 by 226,955*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*, or 69·99 per cent.

The following table shows the extent of the increase under the principal divisions as compared with the years 1873 and 1881:—

Source of Revenue.	1882.	1881.	1873.	Year 1882 compared with 1881.		Year 1882 compared with 1873.	
				Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.
	NUMERICAL.						
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Taxation—							
Customs - -	288,523	254,591	167,996	33,932	—	120,527	—
Beer, land, and dividend taxes -	33,094	49,086	—	—	15,972	33,094	—
Other taxes -	49,239	41,046	24,233	8,193	—	25,006	—
Total taxation -	370,856	344,723	192,229	26,133	—	178,627	—
Special public services—							
Railways, post office, telegraphs, &c. -	81,220	70,776	43,566	10,444	—	37,654	—
From buildings, land, and public investments—							
Rents, sales, &c. -	80,643	71,588	65,731	9,055	—	14,912	—
From other sources—							
Miscellaneous -	18,494	17,919	22,731	575	—	—	4,237
Total revenue -	551,213	505,006	324,257	46,207	—	226,956	—
	CENTESIMAL.						
Taxation - -	67·28	68·26	59·28	7·58	—	92·92	—
Special public services - -	14·74	14·01	13·44	14·76	—	86·43	—
From buildings, land, and public investments - -	14·63	14·18	20·27	12·65	—	22·69	—
From other sources -	3·35	3·55	7·01	3·21	—	—	18·63
	100·00	100·00	190·00	9·15	—	69·99	—

Thus of the 551,213*l.* general revenue collected on account of the year 1882, taxation contributed 67·28 per cent.; special public services, such as railways, telegraphs, postal, &c., con-

tributed 14·74 per cent.; buildings, land, and other public investments, 14·63 per cent.; and other sources of revenue 3·35 per cent.

Upon the whole it will also be observed that there is an increase of 9·15 per cent. (46,207*l.*) as compared with the previous year, and as compared with the first year of the decade there is an increase nearly equal to 70 per cent. (226,956*l.*). Since 1873 the revenue from taxation has nearly doubled itself (92·62 per cent. increase); revenue from public services has increased 86·43 per cent.; and the revenue from buildings, lands, &c. has increased 22·69 per cent. The only decrease within the decade is trifling, 4,237*l.*, confined to miscellaneous items, such as reimbursements, &c., which, upon the whole, only represent 3·35 per cent. of the total general revenue.

It would also appear that the first two sources of revenue have within the decade increased their relative contributions to the total revenue from 72·72 per cent. to 82·02 per cent. of the total revenue, the revenue derived from the last two sources not having increased during the period at a corresponding rate. It might be considered, however, that the increase within the decade, viz., 226,956*l.*, is not wholly due to improvement in trade, because certain taxes (beer, land, and dividend tax, 33,094*l.*), representing 7·82 per cent. of the total revenue of 1882, only came into force in the year 1880, and at least to that extent the total increase is indebted to the creation of a new source of taxation; but notwithstanding this, the per-centage increase stated can be shown to be fairly due to the improvement in trade, for in the year 1873 there was a special item of 27,000*l.*, representing 8·3 per cent. of the revenue of that year.

In this Colony the revenue from customs alone, for the year 1882, contributed 288,523*l.*, or 52·35 per cent. of the total general revenue, equal to 2*l.* 7*s.* 8*d.* per head, and it is therefore interesting to note more particularly to what extent certain imports contribute to this important branch of revenue. The following table shows to what extent the various classes of goods contributed in this respect:—

Customs.

Per-centage revenue contributed by the various classes of goods during 1882:—

		Per cent. to Total Customs.
Class I.	Art and mechanic productions -	10·62
Class II.	Textile fabrics and dress - -	18·91
Class III.	Food, drinks, &c. - -	59·57
Class IV.	Animal and vegetable substances	5·75
Class V.	Minerals and metals - -	2·84
Class VI.	Live animals and plants - -	0·60
Class VII.	Miscellaneous and indefinite -	1·71
	Total customs revenue -	100·00

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Thus food, drinks, and textile fabrics together contribute more than three fourths (78 · 48 per cent.) of the whole revenue from customs.

If we examine more closely the orders or subdivisions of classes of goods according to their importance as sources of revenue, we obtain the following results :—

Order of Subdivisions of Classes according to their importance as sources of Revenue.

	Per cent. to Total Customs Revenue.
1. Drink - -	23 · 78
2. Textile fabrics and dress - -	18 · 91
3. Vegetable food, including sugar -	13 · 62
4. Tobacco - - - -	12 · 71
5. Stimulants not otherwise mentioned	9 · 15
6. Machines, tools, implements, &c. -	5 · 92
7. Vegetable substances, raw materials	2 · 53
8. Oils - - -	2 · 18
9. Chemicals, (includes matches, paints, &c.) - - - -	1 · 66
10. Metals other than gold and silver -	1 · 40
11. All other articles each of which contributes less than one per cent. to total customs revenue - -	8 · 14
	100 · 00

Thus drink alone contributes most largely (23 · 78 per cent.) to the customs revenue, although its total amount only represented 4 · 3 per cent. of total value of the imports, and notwithstanding that the tax is equal to 96 · 45 per cent. of the actual value of the article.

The order of the greatest tax, relative to value, of 20 of the most highly taxed articles, is given below, as regards the year 1882 :—

	Tax per-centage to Import Value.
1. Tobacco - - - -	157 · 09
2. Drink - - - -	96 · 45
3. Arms, ammunition - -	51 · 22
4. Various stimulants, including tea -	37 · 07
5. Oils - - - -	35 · 83
6. Building materials - -	20 · 01
7. Vegetable food, including sugar -	19 · 79
8. Animal substances not food -	17 · 98
9. Mean value of all articles - -	17 · 55
10. Vegetable substances not food -	10 · 76
11. Carriages, harness, &c. - -	10 · 23
12. Live animals and plants - -	10 · 11
13. Musical instruments - -	10 · 04

	Tax per-centage to Import Value.
14. Furniture - - -	10·00
15. Tackle for sports and games -	10·00
16. Prints and pictures - -	9·96
17. Textile fabrics and dress - -	9·50
18. Stone, clay, and earthenware -	9·27
19. Machines, tools, and implements -	8·91
20. Chemicals - - -	7·70

The inclusion of articles free of duty in the value of imports explains the variations from nominal rates of duty within each division.

General Expenditure.

The general expenditure on account of the year 1882, made up to 31st March 1883, including interest on loans, amounts to 502,770*l.* 14*s.* 1*d.*,* or a sum equal to 4*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.* per head of population. In order that the proportion of the expense of each separate function, discharged by the general Government should be properly estimated, it is necessary to distribute the yearly interest paid on loans against each function according to the extent and the direction in which the proceeds of the various loans were applied. This has been carried out in the abstract of expenditure a synopsis of which is given below.

General Expenditure, 1882.

—	Expenditure.		Total.	Per cent. to Total.	Amount per Head.
	Direct Charges.	Interest on Loan.			
	£	£	£		*s.*
General administration - -	57,514	—	57,514	11·44	9·53
Law and protection - -	54,066	2,102	56,168	11·17	9·31
Religion, science, and education	28,997	6,509	35,506	7·06	5·88
Charities - - - - -	46,270	—	46,270	9·20	7·67
Special public works and services—					
Railways (construction and maintenance) - -	67,194	28,805	95,999	19·09	15·91
Post Office (construction and maintenance) - -	31,992	—	31,992	10·21	8·51
Telegraphs (construction and maintenance) - -	15,614	3,753	19,367		
Scab inspection - -	2,322	—	2,322	0·46	0·38
Lands, mines, and works control - - -	28,846	—	28,846	5·74	4·78
Roads, bridges, buildings, construction - -	48,393	41,337	89,730	17·85	14·87
Immigration - - -	—	10,102	10,102	2·01	1·67
Various special services -	1,276	12,679	13,955	2·78	2·31
Total special public works and services -	195,637	96,676	292,313	58·14	48·43
Estimated outstanding expenditure - -	15,000	—	15,000	2·99	2·48
Grand total - -	397,484	105,287	502,771	100·00	83·30

* 15,000*l.* of this sum, or 2·99 per cent., is estimated out-standing expenditure, and may be slightly under or over-stated, but in any case its inclusion does not materially affect comparisons.

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It would appear from this table that the order of the more costly functions of the general Government are as follows :—

	Per cent. to Total Expenditure.
1. Special public works and services - -	58·14
2. General administration - - -	11·44
3. Law and protection - - -	11·17
4. Charities - - - -	9·20
5. Religion, science, and education - -	7·06
6. Outstanding expenditure - - -	2·99

With regard to the first item, however, it is desirable to point out that the revenue derived from public services should be placed as a set-off against it, the amount of which—81,220*l.*—would materially reduce the relative cost of special works and services. For example, although the service for railways, telegraphs, and post offices for the year costs a sum equal to 1*l.* 4*s.* 4*d.* per head of population, or 29·30 per cent. of the total expenditure for the year, yet the revenue from these sources is gradually increasing, and for the year 1882 represented 10*s.* per head of the population,—*i.e.*, already it amounts to 40·9 per cent. of the total expenditure in connexion with such services.

The information necessary for distributing the interest on loans is not available, so far as past years are concerned, and the comparison with former years is based upon the classification which regards interest as a separate item of expenditure, irrespective of the functions or service against which it more properly belongs as a charge.

The following synopsis shows the expenditure for the year 1882 under various heads, in comparison with the year 1873 and the year 1881 :—

Expenditure, 1873, 1881, *and* 1882 *compared.*

—	Expenditure.			*1882.—Increase or Decrease as compared with	
	1882.	1881.	1873.	1881.	1873.
	NUMERICAL.				
	£	£	£	£	£
General Administration† -	57,514	48,590	43,392	8,924[a]	14,122[d]
Law and protection† - -	54,066	52,731	49,146	1,335[b]	4,920[e]
Religion, education, and science	28,997	27,227	23,425	1,770	5,572
Charities - - - -	46,270	46,452	38,239	−182	8,031
Special public works and services† - - - -	195,637	184,323	65,403	11,314[c]	130,234[f]
Interest - - - -	105,287	104,361	84,342	926	20,945
Outstanding expenditure, estimated - - - -	15,000	—	—	15,000	15,000
Total - - -	502,771	463,684	303,947	39,087	198,824
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Per head - -	4 3 4	3 19 1	2 18 11	0 4 3	1 4 5

* Where the sign − is placed, it indicates a decrease; where there is no sign, an increase is implied.

† Owing to the distribution of miscellaneous items of expense in 1882, formerly included in one item under special public works and services, the nominal increases as shown against particular heads should be modified as follows :—

	Per-cent.
[a] General administration, 1882, increase as compared with 1881 -	8·53
[b] Law and protection „ „ 1881 -	1·12
[c] Special public works and services „ „ 1881 -	9·76
[d] General administration „ „ 1873 -	21·49
[e] Law and protection „ „ 1873 -	6·08
[f] Special public works and services „ „ 1873 -	209·41

—	Expenditure.			*1882.—Increase or Decrease as compared with	
	1882.	1881.	1873.	1881.	1873.
	CENTESIMAL.				
General administration†	11·44	10·48	14·28	18·36[a]	32·54[d]
Law and protection†	10·75	11·37	16·17	2·53[b]	10·01[e]
Religion, education, and science	5·77	5·87	7·71	6·50	23·71
Charities	9·20	10·02	12·58	–0·39	21·00
Special public works and services†	38·91	39·75	21·51	6·13[c]	199·12[f]
Interest	20·95	22·51	27·75	0·88	24·83
Outstanding expenditure, estimated	2·98	—	—	—	—
Total	100·00	100·00	100·00	8·49	65·41
General expenditure per head	—	—	—	5·37	41·44

* Where the sign – is placed, it indicates a decrease; where there is no sign, an increase is implied.

† Owing to the distribution of miscellaneous items of expense in 1882, formerly included in one item under special public works and services, the nominal increases as shown against particular heads should be modified as follows:—

	Per-cent.
[a] General administration, 1882, increase as compared with 1881	8·53
[b] Law and protection „ „ 1881	1·12
[c] Special public works and services „ „ 1881	9·76
[d] General administration „ „ 1873	21·49
[e] Law and protection „ „ 1873	6·08
[f] Special public works and services „ „ 1873	209·41

Briefly, therefore, we perceive that the general expenditure of 1882 exceeds that of the previous year by 39,087*l.*, or 8·49 per cent., and exceeds that of 1873, the first year of decade, by 198,824*l.*, or 65·41 per cent. Of the latter increase nearly 80 per cent. is due entirely to the construction and maintenance of railways, roads, bridges, and other necessary public works.

Balance of Revenue and Expenditure.

The total general revenue for the year 1882, as estimated on 31st March, exceeds the total general expenditure by 48,442*l.* 0*s.* 11*d.*, a sum equivalent to 9·64 per cent. of the total expenditure, or 8*s.* per head of population. The following table shows the relation of general revenue to general expenditure during the last decade:—

—	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Net excess of Revenue above Expenditure.	Net excess of Expenditure above Revenue.
	£	£	£	£
1873	324,257	303,947	20,310	—
1874	333,732	325,195	8,537	—
1875	342,606	336,090	6,516	—
1876	327,017	341,889	—	14,872
1877	366,118	352,461	13,657	—
1878	385,936	379,232	6,704	—
1879	375,570	481,215	—	105,645
1880	442,158	415,196	26,962	—
1881	505,006	463,684	41,322	—
1882	551,213	502,771	48,442	—
	3,953,613	3,901,680	51,933	—

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Thus the aggregate revenue for the last decade exceeds the aggregate expenditure by 51,933*l.*

The expenditure exceeded revenue only twice in this time, viz., 1876 and 1879. On the latter occasion, however, it was due entirely to the payment of the arrears of the guaranteed Interest to the Tasmanian Main Line Railway Company on the friendly termination of disputed claims covering the years 1876–7–8–9. The deficiency in 1876 is accounted for by the sudden cessation of the Launceston and Western Railway Districts' contribution towards payment of the interest upon railway loan. It is satisfactory to note, as marking the buoyancy of sources of revenue during the last three years of decade, that the revenue has exceeded the expenditure by a sum of 116,726*l.*

Loans Account, Public Debt.

The following are some of the more important particulars :—

Loans authorised, 1882—	£
For the redemption of Loans falling due, 1883–4	181,300
Various public works	335,000
Immigration	30,000
Total	£546,000

	£
Total loans authorised to 31st December 1882, less loans redeemed	2,050,600
Total loans authorised to 31st December 1882, not issued	435,750
Moneys raised on loans to 31st December 1882	2,024,533

	1882.	Aggregate to 31st Dec. 1882.	Per cent. to Total.
Loans actually expended—			
Public Works—	£	£	£
Railways	167	553,743	29·36
Telegraphs	5,452	70,223	3·72
Roads, jetties, bridges, and harbours	69,845	476,519	25·26
Public buildings	17,944	241,164	12·79
Defences	7,052	35,896	1·90
Other public works	2,194	32,429	1·72
Total public works	102,654	1,409,975	74·75

	1882.	Aggregate to 31st Dec. 1882.	Per cent. to Total.
Other public purposes—			
Commutation of State aid to religion - - -	£ —	£ 100,000	£ 5·30
Immigration - -	1,870	198,800	10·55
Miscellaneous - -	—	—	9·40
Total other public purposes - -	1,870	476,172	25·25
Total loans actually expended - -	104,524	1,886,147	100
Balance of Loan moneys raised, unexpended on 31st December, 1882 - - - - -	—	138,386	—

The moneys expended from loans in 1882 is equal to 20·79 per cent. of the moneys disbursed under general expenditure for the same period.

The public debt on the 31st December 1882, 2,050,600*l.*, although showing an increase of 47,600*l.* as compared with previous year, is nevertheless 2*s.* less per head, owing to the greater rate of increase in population as compared with indebtedness.

Public Debt.

	Population on 31st December 1882.	Debt.	Debt per head.
		£	£ *s.* *d.*
1881 - - -	118,923	2,003,000	16 16 10
1882 - - -	122,479	2,050,600	16 14 10

II.—FINANCES RELATING TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

The following gives a synopsis of the receipts and expenditure of each group of local bodies for the year 1882:—

—	No.	Value of Rateable Property.	Revenue.				Expenditure.	Rates levied per £ on Rateable Property.
			From Rates, &c.	Government Aid.	Other sources.	Total.		
		£	£	£	£	£	£	*s.* *d.*
Marine boards*	5	—	22,477	—	5,182†	27,659	26,022	—
Municipalities§	21	586,588	48,013	4,949	42,153‖	95,115‖	103,217¶	1 7‡
Road and bridge trusts	76	423,530	11,139	6,885	839	18,863	15,228	0 6·3
Rabbit trusts -	7	—	—	—	46	46	212	—
Public cemeteries - -	7	—	—	200	58	258	248	—
	116	—**	81,629	12,034	48,278	141,941	144,927	—

* Includes lighthouses.
† Receipts from other Governments.
‡ Includes water rates.
§ Does not include building fund.
‖ Includes receipts from loans.
¶ Includes repayments of loans.
** The same property may be rated both for municipal and road trust purposes

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Thus the revenue of 116 local bodies during 1882 amounted to 141,941*l.* from all sources, of which 12,034*l.*, or 8·47 per cent., was contributed by the general Government as grant in aid. The rates levied in municipalities were equal to an average 1*s.* 7*d.* in the £ of the rateable property, and the road trust rate on the average only amounted to 6·3*d.* of the rateable property included within the boundaries of the various trusts. This low average of road trust rate when compared with nominal rates, ranging from 3*d.* to 1*s.* per £, is no doubt due to the circumstance that certain trusts do not levy a rate each year, although the collection in respect of the same seems to be distributed over more than one yearly period.

Of the 81,629*l.* mentioned above, only 67,998*l.* raised as rates and dues, can be legitimately included as taxation. The following is a summary of the same :

	Taxation Local Government, 1882.	Per head.
	£	*s.*
Municipalities - - - -	41,968	6·95
Marine Boards - - - -	14,891	2·47
Road trusts - - - - -	11,139	1·85
Total taxation Local Government -	67,998	11·27

The revenue and expenditure for 1882, less Government aid, as compared with the previous year and with the first year of decade, is shown as follows :—

	1882.	1881.	1873.	Increase 1882 as compared with—	
				1881.	1873.
	£	£	£	Amount. £	Amount. £
Revenue - -	129,736	124,812	81,438	4,924	48,298
Expenditure - -	116,798	110,254	76,387	6,544	40,411
Municipal value rateable property -	586,588	573,314	500,856	13,274	85,732

Thus revenue has increased 3·95 per cent. as compared with 1881, and 59·31 as compared with 1873. Expenditure has increased 5·94 per cent. as compared with 1881, and 52·90 per cent. as compared with 1873; and value of municipal rateable property has at the same time increased 2·31 per cent. as compared with 1881, and 17·12 per cent. as compared with 1873.

FINANCES RELATING TO GOVERNMENT, GENERAL, LOCAL, AND IMPERIAL.

Revenue and Expenditure, General and Local

Taken together, and excluding the moneys transferred from general to local Government, the total revenue of general and local Government for the year 1882 amounts to 680,949*l.* being an increase over 1881 of 51,131*l.* or 8·09 per cent., and an increase over 1873 of 275,254*l.* or 67·85 per cent. The expenditure for 1882 amounts to 635,569*l.* exceeding 1881 by 61,631*l.* or 10·74 per cent., and exceeding 1873 by 258,235*l.* or 68·44 per cent. The revenue for 1882 exceeded expenditure by 45,370*l.*, equal to 7·13 per cent of total expenditure.

Taxation, General and Local.

The total taxation of the Colony, general and local, for the year 1882 amounts to 438,854*l.*, equal to 3*l.* 12*s.* 9*d* per head, or 64·45 per cent. of the whole revenue for the same year. Of this sum 370,856*l.*, or 3*l.* 1*s.* 5*d.* per head, was raised by general Government, and 67,998*l.*, or 11*s.* 4*d.* per head, was raised by ocal Government, as follows :—

——	General Government.	Per cent. to Total.	Per head.
	£		*s.*
Customs - - - -	288,523	65·75	47·81
Beer duty - - - -	14,432	3·28	2·39
Land tax - - - -	18,628	4·25	3·09
Dividend tax - - - -	10,034	2·29	1·66
Rural police rate - -	4,825	1·10	0·80
Licenses - - - -	12,499	2·85	2·07
Stamp and probate duty - -	21,915	4·99	3·63
Total General Government -	370,856	84·51	61·45

——	Local Government.	Per cent. to Total.	Per head.
	£		*s.*
Municipalities—Police and General rate, &c. - - - - -	41,968	9·56	6·95
Marine Boards - - - -	14,891	3·39	2·47
Road trusts - - - -	11,139	2·54	1·85
Total Local Government -	67,998	15·49	11·27
Total taxation—General and Local - - - -	438,854	100·00	72·72

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The following is an abstract showing the gradual increase per head in taxation since the year 1876 :—general and local Government, taxation per head, 1876, 52*s.* 3*d.*; 1878, 56*s.* 10*d.*; 1879, 53*s.* 7*d.*; 1880, 63*s.* 9*d.*; 1881, 69*s.* 6*d.*; 1882, 72*s.* 9*d.*

Since 1876 the taxes levied by general Government have increased 1*l.* 1*s.* 2*d.* per head, or 52·59 per cent., while the taxes levied by local Government during 1882, although more than 1876 by 5,324*l.* have not increased at the same rate as population, as the rate is reduced to the extent of 8*d.* per head of population.

Such are the complexities introduced by the alteration in the tariff in 1880, and by the different mode of dealing with stamp duty, that it is extremely difficult to estimate what proportion of increase is due to fresh taxation, and what proportion is due to the natural increase arising from increase in population and the more prosperous state of trade in 1883; but a rough analysis shows that of the increase in total taxation (160,545*l.* in 1882, as compared with 1876), about 30 per cent. is due to the former cause, and the remaining 70 per cent. to the latter.

ACCUMULATION.

Coinage and Accounts.

There is no mint in Tasmania; and the coinage is that of the United Kingdom, which in all respects is similar to that used in the neighbouring Colonies. The accounts are accordingly kept in sterling money (£ *s.* *d.*) The limit of legal tender for silver is forty shillings; bronze pence, twelve (1*s.*); and bronze half-pence twelve (6*d.*). During the year 1882 our currency has been improved by the introduction of 16,000*l.* worth of new silver coin. An additional 14,000*l.* has been introduced during the current year 1883; while 10,000*l.* worth of silver coin has been withdrawn from circulation and forwarded to the English mint, for which the full nominal value has been received and paid into our Treasury.

Rates of Exchange.

The rates of exchange for bank or mercantile bills is the same as in former years; viz.—

—	London.	Victoria.	New South Wales.	South Australia.	Queensland.	New Zealand.
Average purchasing rate at sight or on demand—						
Discount, per cent. - -	—	¼	½	½	½	¾
Average purchasing rate at 60 days' sight - -	¼	—	—	—	—	—
Average selling rate at 60 days' sight - - -	1	—	—	—	—	—
Average selling rate at sight or on demand - -	—	½	½	1	1	¾

Rates of Discount.

The average rates of discount were the same as previous years; viz., for bills having a currency of under 95 days, 6 per cent. for bills having a currency beyond 95 days, 7 per cent.

Interest on Fixed Deposits.

The interest allowed during 1882 on fixed deposits was as follows:—From 1st January to 15th August, deposited for three months, 2 per cent.; for six months 3 per cent.; for twelve months, 4 per cent. From 15th August to 31st December, for three months, 3 per cent.; for six months, 4 per cent.; for twelve months, 5 per cent.

Banks.

There are five banks of issue in Tasmania during the year 1882, possessing 20 branches or agencies within the Colony. On the 31st December the total liabilities amounted to 3,097,310*l.* 2s. 5*d.*, and the total assets amounted to 2,989,928*l.* 4*s.* 11*d.* The liabilities thus exceeded assets by 107,390*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* It should be stated here that the reason why liabilities exceed deposits is because a part only of the accounts of English banks is related to Tasmania. The actual relation of liabilities to assets, so far as the English and local banks are concerned, is shown as follows:—

1882.	English Banks.	Local Banks.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Assets in excess of liabilities -	—	346,381 7 9
Liabilities in excess of assets -	453,772 5 3	—

The following is a synopsis showing full particulars regarding assets and liabilities, together with comparisons with the former year 1881 and with the first year of the decade 1873:—

—	1882.	1881.	1873.	1882. Compared with 1881.		1882. Compared with 1873.	
				Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.
	ASSETS. NUMERICAL.						
	£	£	£	£	£	£	
Specie and bullion -	505,836	516,515	251,134	—	10,679	254,702	—
Landed property -	53,233	44,663	35,743	8,570	—	17,490	—
Balance due from other banks -	217,465	356,747	35,170	—	139,282	182,295	—
Debts due to banks -	2,213,394	1,798,102	986,187	415,292	—	1,227,207	—
	2,989,928	2,716,027	1,308,234	273,901	—	1,681,694	—

—	1882.	1881.	1873.	1882. Compared with 1881. Increase.	1882. Compared with 1881. Decrease.	1882. Compared with 1873. Increase.	1882. Compared with 1873. Decrease.
	CENTESIMAL.						
	£	£	£	£	£	£	
Specie and bullion -	16·89	19·02	19·20	—	2·07	101·42	—
Landed property -	1·79	1·65	2·73	19·19	—	48·93	—
Balance due from other banks -	7·29	13·13	2·69	—	39·04	518·33	—
Debts due to banks -	74·03	66·20	75·38	23·10	—	124·44	—
	100·00	100·00	100·00	10·08	—	128·55	—
	LIABILITIES. NUMERICAL.						
Notes in circulation -	162,265	139,458	101,851	22,807	—	60,414	—
Bills in circulation -	46,047	4,926	2,282	41,121	—	43,765	—
Balance due to other banks - -	24,710	11,271	4,342	13,439	—	20,368	—
Deposits - -	2,864,297	2,600,112	858,785	264,185	—	2,005,502	—
	3,097,319	2,755,767	967,260	241,552	—	2,130,059	—
	CENTESIMAL.						
Notes in circulation -	5·24	5·06	10·53	16·35	—	59·32	—
Bills in circulation -	1·49	0·18	0·23	834·77	—	1,917·84	—
Balance due to other banks - -	0·80	0·41	0·45	119·24	—	469·09	—
Deposits - -	92·47	94·35	88·79	10·16	—	233·53	—
	100·00	100·00	100·00	8·77	—	220·22	—

Thus, as regards assets in 1882, it is shown that there is an increase of 273,901*l.*, or 10·08 per cent., as compared with the previous year; and an increase of 1,681,694*l.*, or 128·55 per cent., as compared with the first year of decade 1873.

Compared also with the latter year, the following show large increases; viz., specie and bullion, 101·42 per cent., landed property, 48·93 per cent.; balance due from other banks, 518·33 per cent.; and debts due to banks, 124·44 per cent.

As regards liabilities, it would also appear that, upon the whole, they have increased within the decade to a greater extent than the assets; for, while the assets in 1882 have increased 128·55 per cent. since 1873, liabilities have increased 220·22 per cent. The following is a statement of the increases, in the order of the greater relative increase, as compared with 1873:—

Increases in Liabilities, 1882, *as compared with* 1873.

1. Bills in circulation - 1917·84 per cent. increase.
2. Balance due to other banks 469·09 „ „
3. Deposits - - - 233·53 „ „
4. Notes in circulation - 59·32 „ „

The following shows the relative value of the various items of assets for 1882 in the order of their importance :—

Assets, 1882.

1. Debts due to banks - 74·03 per cent. to total assets.
2. Specie and bullion - 16·89 „ „
3. Balance due from other banks - - - 7·29 „ „
4. Landed property - - 1·79 „ „

The liabilities are also similarly compared as follows :—

Liabilities, 1882.

1. Deposits - - 92·47 per cent. to total liabilities.
2. Notes in circulation - 5·24 „ „ „
3. Bills in circulation - 1·49 „ „ „
4. Balance due to other banks - - 0·80 „ „ „

Savings Banks.

The following is a statement with respect to the various savings banks in Tasmania during 1882, together with comparisons with the years 1873 and 1881 respectively :—

Saving Banks, 1873, 1881, 1882.

——	Hobart Savings Bank.	Launceston Savings Bank.	Post Office Savings Bank.	All.
	No.	No.	No.	No.
Number of Depositors, 1873 - - -	5,746	3,945	—	9,691
Number of Depositors, 1881 - - -	8,064	6,664	—	14,728
Number of Depositors, 1882 - - -	8,451	7,042	874	16,367
	£	£	£	£
Depositors' balances, 1873	189,699	79,908	—	269,607
„ „ 1881	245,459	123,819	—	369,278
„ „ 1882	251,688	126,385	10,654	388,727
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Average amount of each depositor's balance, 1873 - - -	33 0 3	20 5 1	—	27 16 5
Average amount of each depositor's balance, 1881 - - -	30 8 9	18 11 7	—	25 1 5
Average amount of each depositor's balance, 1882 - - -	29 15 7	17 18 11	12 4 0	23 15 0

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As compared with 1873, the year 1882, in respect of number of depositors, shows an increase of 6,676, or 68 · 88 per cent., and in respect of deposits, an increase of 119,120*l.*, or 44 · 18 per cent.

Similarly compared with the previous year 1881, in respect of numbers of depositors there is an increase of 1,639, or 11 · 13 per cent., and in respect of deposits, an increase of 19,449*l.*, or 5 · 15 per cent. The average amount to credit of each depositor has slightly declined, and the number of depositors increased. The Post Office savings bank system was only initiated during the latter portion of the year, and therefore it is premature to criticise results. There is every promise, however, of success, as its branches take up a wide field not occupied by any savings bank system hitherto.

Property Valuation.

The following abstract gives particulars of the steadily increasing value of property during the last 10 years :—

Property Valuation, Decennial Return.

Year.	Municipalities, Hobart and Launceston.	Rural Municipalities.	Police Districts.	Totals.
	£	£	£	£
1873 - - -	160,376	340,480	100,682	601,538
1874 - - -	161,559	341,541	95,687	598,787
1875 - - -	162,629	343,840	97,878	604,347
1876 - - -	170,105	356,058	121,159	647,322
1877 - - -	174,679	340,688	121,024	636,391
1878 - - -	180,336	366,615	129,314	665,689
1879 - - -	184,300	368,565	130,212	683,077
1880 - - -	195,484	373,312	136,236	705,032
1881 - - -	199,738	373,576	140,798	714,112
1882 - - -	211,389	375,199	158,832	745,420

Thus, of property in Tasmania during 1882, 28 · 36 per cent. of the value was situated in the municipalities of Hobart and Launceston ; 50 · 33 per cent. in the rural municipalities, *i.e.*, nearly one half; and 21 · 31 per cent. was situated in the police districts.

Since the year 1873 the valuation of property has increased 23 · 91 per cent. The order of the three sub-divisions as regards the largest relative increase, is given as follows :—

Per-centage increase since 1873.

1. Police districts - - 57 · 76 per cent. increase.
2. Municipalities Hobart and Launceston - 31 · 88 „ „
3. Rural municipalities - 10 · 20 „ „

Mortgages, &c.

The mortgages registered during 1882, though fewer in number, greatly exceed in amount those of any former year of the decade.

Mortgages registered.

	1882.		Average of Decade, 1873–82.	
	No.	Per cent. to Total.	No.	Per cent. to Total.
Under the old system -	445	60·54	360	61·96
Under Real Property Act -	290	39·46	221	38·04
Total - -	735	100·00	581	100·00
	£		£	
Under the old system -	503,585	71·39	248,541	71·49
Under Real Property Act -	201,818	28·61	99,110	28·51
Total - -	705,403	100·00	347,651	100·00

The increase in 1882 as compared with the average registrations per year during the last decade is, as regards number, 154; as regards amount, 357,752*l*. The per-centage relation of the transactions under the old system and under the real property Act remains fairly constant. The various transactions connected with Lands' Titles Office, other than registration of mortgages, during 1882, also show a very large increase as compared with former years.

Grant Deeds.

The number of grant deeds enrolled in the Supreme Court for the year 1882 is 496, a number which has only been exceeded during the decade by the years 1873 and 1874. It exceeds the number of the previous year by 119 per cent.

PRODUCTION.

Ordinary Crown Lands leased.

During the year 1882 the extent of ordinary Crown lands leased was 1,951,507 acres, equal to 11·6 per cent. of the whole area of the Colony, and 63,454 acres above that of the acreage

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leased during 1882. The rental was 9,161*l.* 9*s.* (equal to 1·12*d.** per acre per year), which is in excess of the rental of the previous year by 706*l.* 10*s.*

Of the lands leased during 1882 only 57·2 per cent. of the acreage belonged to the mainland, for which an average rental of 1·70*d.* per acre was obtained; the remaining 42·8 per cent. relates to islands leased, which only yielded an average rental of 0·36*d.* per acre.

The total average acreage leased per year during the last decade was 1,022,329 acres, and the average rental per year amounted to 7,683*l.*, or 1·084*d.* per acre per year.

Ordinary Crown Lands sold.

The following is a synopsis of the particulars relating to the lands sales during the year 1882, together with comparison in relation to the previous year and to the average of the last decade:—

Crown Land Sales.

	1882.	1881.	Average of last Decade.	Increase or Decrease as compared with	
				1881.	Average of last Decade.
Number of lots—					
Country - -	335	362	378	−27	−43
Town and suburban	308	313	210	− 5	+98
Total - -	643	675	588	−32	+55
Area, acres—					
Country - -	26,274	30,795	41,312	−4,521	−15,038
Town and suburban	893	540	779	+ 353	+ 114
Total - -	27,167	31,335	42,091	−4,168	−14,924
	£	£	£	£	£
Amount—					
Country - -	36,028	41,241	51,449	−5,213	−15,421
Town and suburban	8,678	9,824	6,315	−1,146	+ 2,363
Total - -	44,706	51,065	57,764	−6,359	−13,058
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Amount per acre—					
Country - -	1 7 5	1 6 9	1 4 11	+0 0 8	+0 2 6
Town and suburban	9 14 4	18 3 9	8 2 2	−8 9 5	+1 12 2
Mean - -	1 12 1	1 12 7	1 7 5	+0 0 4	+0 5 6

* This appears to be lower than the rental per acre in Victoria to the extent of from 14 to 22 per cent. (*see* par. 970, p. 410, Victorian Year Book, 1881–2).

Thus the area sold during 1882 (27,167 acres) is less by 4,168 acres as compared with 1881, and less by 14,824 acres as compared with the average of decade. The amount for which the land was sold during 1882, viz., 44,706*l.*, is less than sales of previous year by 6,359*l.*, and lower than the average of decade by 13,058*l.* Although the average amount per acre received for town and suburban lots is considerably lower than that received during 1881, the total sales per acre for 1882 are higher than for 1881 by 4*d.* per acre, and above the average of decade by 5*s.* 6*d.* per acre. A larger extent of gold-field allotments was sold during 1881, and this is sufficient to account for the lesser average per acre in town and suburban allotments sold during 1882.

Mineral Lands.

With respect to mineral lands the following is a general summary for the year ending 31st December 1882 :—

	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.
Gold—					
Number of leases in force on 31st December -	104	77	101	181	362
Area - No. of acres	1,070	758	999	1,781	3,627
Rental and other fees - - £	2,351	2,070	4,355	9,352	5,683
Tin—					
Number of leases in force on 31st December -	286	354	407	576	932
Area - No. of acres	24,298	21,216	18,976	28,653	42,982
Rental - - £	6,075	5,304	4,744	7,163	10,746
Other minerals—					
Number of leases in force on 31st December -	44	38	25	19	40
Area - No. of acres	4,076	3,928	2,624	1,624	3,006
Rental - - £	752	794	470	267	624
Total—					
Number of leases in force - -	434	469	533	776	1,334
Area - No. of acres	29,444	25,892	22,599	32,058	49,615
Rental and fees - £	9,178	8,168	9,569	16,782	17,053

It would appear from the above summary that although there has been a considerable decrease in the receipts from gold mining leases, &c. during 1882, the total amount received from all mineral leases exceeds that of 1881 by 271*l.*; while in comparison with the same year, the actual number of leases in force has increased 71·91 per cent., and the acreage under lease has increased 54·77 per cent. This result is chiefly due to the greater extent of land taken up during the year under tin-mining. Of the total area of lands secured under mining leases during 1882, fully 86 per cent. was secured in respect of tin.

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Agriculture.

The whole of the statistics relating to agriculture and live stock up to 31st March 1883 have been published in the "Gazette" in five separate sheets, the last of which was issued on 26th May 1883. By this method the earlier information collected respecting the more advanced districts was not hindered by the delays caused by the later harvests in some districts, and the publication of the results of diligent collectors was not, as heretofore, delayed until the returns of all districts were lodged in the office of the Statistician.

Acreage.

The total land in cultivation (377,486 acres), which in Tasmania includes land in permanent artificial grasses, was greater by 3,112 acres as compared with the previous year. The land under tillage or in crop (147,555 acres), however, was less by 939 acres, while the land under permanent artificial grasses (148,291 acres) has increased 11,970 acres.

The following table gives a more detailed statement of the general results and of the extent of agriculture and horticulture in Tasmania during the year 1882–3, together with comparisons with the preceding year and with the first year of the decade:—

Agriculture, 1873–4, 1881–2, 1882–3.

—	1882-83.	1881-82.	1873-74.	1882 as compared with			
				1881-82.		1873-74.	
				Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.
Wheat—							
Acres - -	46,721	51,757	58,610	—	5,036	—	11,889
Bushels - -	946,889	917,365	947,813	—	30,476	—	924
Bushels per acre -	20·27	18·88	16·17	1·39	—	4·10	—
Barley—							
Acres - -	3,229	4,597	6,440	—	1,368	—	3,211
Bushels - -	89,739	102,475	124,459	—	12,736	—	34,720
Bushels per acre -	27·79	22·31	19·33	5·48	—	8·46	—
Oats—							
Acres - -	28,849	27,535	26,750	1,314	—	2,099	—
Bushels - -	788,713	783,129	561,247	5,584	—	227,466	—
Bushels per acre -	27·40	28·44	20·98	—	1·04	6·42	—
Hay—							
Acres - -	38,043	34,790	26,406	3,253	—	11,631	—
Tons - -	49,513	44,957	28,430	4,556	—	21,083	—
Tons per acre -	1·30	1·29	1·08	0·01	—	0·22	—
Potatoes—							
Acres - -	9,681	9,670	7,910	11	—	1,771	—
Tons - -	37,526	33,565	24,970	3,961	—	12,556	—
Tons per acre -	3·88	3·47	3·16	0·41	—	0·72	—
Hops—							
Acres - -	666	586	664	80	—	2	—
Lbs. - - -	1,101,243	668,846	825,306	432,397	—	275,937	—
Lbs. per acre -	1,653·52	1,143·81	1,242·93	509·71	—	410·59	—
Apples, bushels -	234,805	142,217	174,551	92,588	—	60,254	—
Pears, bushels -	24,864	22,271	15,042	2,593	—	9,822	—
Lands in crop, acres -	147,555	148,494	144,607	—	939	2,948	—
Lands in permanent artificial grasses, acres - -	148,291	136,321	93,564	11,970	—	54,727	—
Total lands in cultivation, acres -	377,486	374,374	324,105	3,112	—	53,381	—

Altogether the yields per acre during the season 1882–3 have been exceptionally good, more especially as regards potatoes and other root crops, hops, apples, and hay. The yield of hops and apples is by far the largest upon record; and the average yield per acre of wheat and barley has only been once exceeded during the last decade, viz., in the season 1879–80.

The total acreage under crop, however, has considerably diminished, whether compared with the preceding year or with the first year of the decade. It would also appear, from a closer examination of the results of the last 10 years, that the yield of cereals, which ought to constitute the foundation of our agricultural industry, seems rather to decline than to advance. On the other hand, all matters relating to the pastoral industry seem to show a continuous progress. This is strikingly borne out by the fact that, while in 1873–4 land in crop represented 44·62 per cent. of the total land in cultivation, and exceeded land in permanent artificial grasses by 54·55 per cent., yet in 1882–3 land in crop only represents 39·09 per cent. of the total cultivation, and lands in permanent artificial grasses have increased to such an extent that it now exceeds the land in crop by 736 acres. The tendency of agriculture to remain almost in a stationary condition, while all other industries, including the pastoral, are showing a healthy advance, is difficult to account for satisfactorily. In productiveness, as indicated by yield per acre, Tasmania surpasses every other Colony with the exception of New Zealand; yet, notwithstanding this advantage, Tasmania in respect of breadstuffs barely supplies her own immediate wants.

Local Supply of Breadstuffs.—Averages per Year for Decade 1873–82.*

(Flour, &c., reduced to equivalent of wheat, bushels).	Bushels.	Per head.
Average produce of wheat per year, locally, during decade 1873–82 - - - - -	880,952	8·05
Less average balance of exports in excess of imports, in respect of flour and wheat - - -	105,354	0·96
Average local consumption per year for food and seed	—	7·09

* Exclusive of imported biscuits, &c., the quantity of which cannot be exactly ascertained, but which may be estimated to raise the total local consumption of wheaten breadstuffs to 7·5 bushels per head per year.

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The following table shows in respect of wheat, oats, barley, and potatoes, the absolute and relative produce for each Colony for the year 1882:—

Yield of Wheat, Barley, Oats, and Potatoes in the Australasian Colonies during Season 1882–3.

	No. of bushels.	Per cent. to Total.	Per acre.	Per head.
Wheat—			bushels.	bushels.
Victoria - -	8,751,454	27·55	9·03	9·83
New South Wales -	4,042,395	12·73	16·35	5·07
Queensland - -	145,752	0·46	13·89	0·61
South Australia -	7,356,117	23·16	4·21	25·40
Western Australia -	249,900	0·79	11·00	8·22
Tasmania - -	946,889	2·98	20·27	7·84
New Zealand - -	10,270,591	32·33	26·28	20·17
All - -	31,763,098	100	9·25	11·05
Oats—				
Victoria - -	4,446,027	27·06	26·17	4·99
New South Wales -	617,465	3·76	24·88	0·77
Queensland - -	3,730	0·02	16·58	0·25
South Australia -	38,472	0·23	11·13	0·13
Western Australia -	15,370	0·10	15·00	0·51
Tasmania - -	788,713	4·80	27·34	6·53
New Zealand - -	10,520,428	64·03	32·95	20·66
All - -	16,430,205	100	29·92	5·71
Barley—				
Victoria - -	758,477	39·32	17·33	0·85
New South Wales -	133,050	6·90	20·55	0·17
Queensland - -	8,982	0·47	17·82	0·04
South Australia -	134,464	6·97	11·03	0·46
Western Australia -	66,720	3·46	14·03	2·20
Tasmania - -	89,739	4·65	27·79	0·74
New Zealand - -	737,163	38·23	26·19	1·45
All - -	1,928,595	100	19·47	0·67
Potatoes—	tons.		tons.	tons.
Victoria - -	129,605	37.34	3·78	0·14
New South Wales -	43,461	12·53	3·00	0·05
Queensland - -	14,861	4·29	2·90	0·06
South Australia -	16,133	4·66	3·05	0·05
Western Australia -	667	0·20	2·50	0·02
Tasmania - -	37,526	10·82	3·88	0·31
New Zealand - -	104,581	30·16	5·10	0·20
All - -	346,834	100	3·87	0·12

The following series of tables, in respect of wheat, show still more clearly the comparative producing powers of each Colony:—

Relative order of Colonies as regards yield of Wheat per acre, 1882.

	Bushels per acre.
1. New Zealand	26·28
2. Tasmania	20·27
3. New South Wales	16·35
4. Queensland	13·89
5. Western Australia	11·00
6. Victoria	9·03
7. South Australia	4·21

Relative order of Colonies as regards yield of Wheat per head of Population, 1882.

	Bushels per head.
1. South Australia	25·40
2. New Zealand	20·17
3. Victoria	9·83
4. Western Australia	8·22
5. Tasmania	7·84
6. New South Wales	5·07
7. Queensland	0·61

Relative order of Colonies as regards absolute yield of Wheat, 1882.

	Bushels.	Relative area.
1. New Zealand	10,270,591	3·39
2. Victoria	8,751,454	2·86
3. South Australia	7,356,117	29·34
4. New South Wales	4,042,395	10·09
5. Tasmania	946,889	0·85
6. Western Australia	249,900	31·77
7. Queensland	145,752	21·70
	31,763,098	100·00

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Relative order of Colonies as regards yield of Wheat per square mile of Territory.

	Bushels per square mile.
1. Victoria - - - -	99·57
2. New Zealand - - -	98·37
3. Tasmania - - -	36·12
4. New South Wales - -	13·01
5. South Australia - - -	8·14
6. Western Australia - -	0·25
7. Queensland - - -	0·21
All - -	10·31

Thus, as regards wheat, it is apparent that although Tasmania stands second among the Australian colonies as regards yield per acre, she only holds the fifth position as regards yield per head, fifth position as regards absolute yield, and third position as regards yield per square mile of territory. In oats and other crops her position is more creditable; but upon the whole it is somewhat discouraging to find from the following table, based upon the mean of five yearly periods, that the yields of two out of the three principal cereals have gradually declined since 1856–60, and that the third, oats, has remained almost in a stationary condition.

Average yield of Wheat, Oats, Barley, and Potatoes in Tasmania during each quinquennial period, 1856-80, *and during the two years* 1881–2.

	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Potatoes.
	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Tons.
1856–60 - -	175,082	792,241	160,719	34,298
1861–63 - - -	1,091,200	819,467	159,073	39,127
1866–70 - - -	1,040,761	703,291	156,801	35,483
1871–73 - - -	944,917	713,354	124,699	35,529
1876–80 - -	834,101	656,023	136,826	29,061
1881–82 - -	962,127	785,921	96,102	35,545

It is true that the Tasmanian cereals are to a great extent excluded from Australian markets, but it must be borne in mind that the larger proportion of the surplus produced by New Zealand, Victoria, and South Australia is destined for ex-Australian

markets. Australasia as a whole is now producing about 3½ bushels of wheat per head above its own local requirements for food and seed.

Yet, although in a backward condition, agriculture in Tasmania is by far the most important industry. If we reckon the produce of 1882 at the mean rates recorded for each article in Hobart and Launceston, it represents a sum equal to 1,033,197, exclusive of the soft fruits used in jam manufacture,—*i.e.*, the nominal value exceeds the estimated value of wool, gold, and tin together for the same year by a sum of 78,473*l.*

Live Stock.

The number of horses, cattle, sheep, &c. returned on 31st March 1882, and comparisons with the first and last year of the decade 1873–82, and with the average of decade 1851–60, are given in the following table:—

—	1882.	1881.	1873.	Mean of Decade 1851–60.	1882.—Per-centage Increase or Decrease as compared with		
					1881.	1873.	Mean of Decade 1851–60.
Horses - -	25,857	25,607	22,612	18,820	+1·07	+14·35	+37·39
Cattle - - -	122,504	130,526	106,308	86,625	−6·15	+15·24	+41·42
Sheep - - -	1,845,455	1,861,857	1,501,531	1,851,444	−0·88	+22·90	− 0·32
Pigs - - -	47,826	49,660	59,628	29,053	−3·70	−19·80	+64·62

As compared with the previous year, there has been a decrease in cattle, sheep, and pigs. The largest decrease, 6·15 per cent., is in respect of cattle. There has been a slight increase in the number of horses, viz., 1·07 per cent.

The decrease in sheep and cattle, 16,402 and 8,022 respectively, has already been referred to the following causes:—1. A decline in the imports of live stock for slaughtering purposes from New South Wales and Victoria. 2. As regards sheep, snowfall in the month of June caused a great destruction of the lambs in some places. Mr. Grueber, of Fingal, also informs me that, in his opinion, the decrease arises chiefly from the high prices of meat and the greater local consumption during 1882, the effect of which upon stock-owners has been to cause them to increase the production of fat stock for market in the place of lambs.

As compared with 1873, horses have increased 14·35 per cent.; cattle, 15·24 per cent.; and sheep, 22·90 per cent. The number of pigs has declined 19·80 per cent. within the same period. As compared with the mean of decade 1851–60, horses have increased 37·39 per cent.; cattle, 41·42 per cent., and pigs 64 per cent.; but it is remarkable that the number of sheep should at the

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present time be 0·32 per cent. less than the number returned for Tasmania 30 years ago.

Having submitted this matter to one of our leading sheep breeders (Mr. David Taylor, of St. Johnstone), I obtained valuable information; and the following extract, respecting the stock-carrying capacity of the land and the decrease in number of sheep since 1851, is most interesting:—

"I believe that Tasmania, in its present state, is fully stocked; though, no doubt, by clearing, draining, and destruction of rabbits, its sheep-carrying capacity could be enormously increased. The decline in number of sheep since 1851 is almost entirely due to two causes, viz., fluke and rabbits,—extra consumption having had little influence. Fluke has operated chiefly by causing the lands not easily drained to be given up to cattle; while the rabbit plague (by far the most potent cause) has interfered with the increase of lambs. The best sheep-breeding runs were those where the rabbits have been most destructive."

Mr. Taylor's opinions are confirmed by the various collectors of statistics, whose valuable general reports I regret having been obliged to exclude from the present volume on account of lack of space.

When we compare the sheep-carrying capacity of Tasmania with that of the neighbouring colonies, it is clear that we labour under some serious disadvantage; for, notwithstanding our favourable climate, richly watered lands and most fertile soil, we stand far behind Victoria, New South Wales, and New Zealand in the average number of horses, cattle, and sheep per square mile of territory, as shown in the following comparative table:—

Live Stock per Square Mile, 1882.

	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.
Victoria - - - -	3·19	14·65	115·77
New South Wales - - -	1·05	5·99	102·25
Queensland - - - -	0·34	6·12	18·02
South Australia - - -	0·18	0·81	16·80
Western Australia - - -	0·03	0·07	1·29
New Zealand - - - -	1·55	6·69	124·37
Tasmania - - - -	0·99	4·67	70·40
Total - - -	0·48	3·30	29·92

Live Stock imported and slaughtered.

With such comparative and absolute scarcity of stock locally, it is only natural to expect that Tasmania, for slaughtering purposes, should during the last decade have imported in excess of export 111,402 sheep and 11,998 cattle.

The quantity imported during 1882, 4,795 sheep and 927 cattle, is less than half the usual quantity imported. The number of animals recorded as slaughtered in Hobart and Launceston is as follows :—

	1882.	1881.	1882.	
			Increase.	Decrease.
Sheep - - -	89,890	87,473	2,417	—
Cattle - - -	9,610	9,131	479	—
Pigs - - -	5,476	5,054	422	—

Wool.

The clip of wool for the year 1881, as ascertained by exports during the twelve months ending 30th November 1882, is estimated to be 8,116,026 lbs., and the declared value is stated to be 448,209*l.*, equal to 1*s.* 1·40*d.* per lb. I have reason, however, to doubt whether the same mode of declaring values is observed by all exporters, and therefore too great reliance should not be placed upon the varying rate as deduced from weights and value of any single year. The wool actually exported during the year 1882, irrespective of the clip of any particular season, was 7,748,542lbs., and the nominal export value is stated to be 432,768*l.* The following table gives the yearly average for each quinquennial from 1851 to 1880, inclusive, and the actual for the year 1881 and 1882, in respect of the number of sheep, the quantity of wool exported, the average quantity of wool exported per sheep, and the average value of wool exported per sheep.

Yield of Wool, 1851–1882.—*Average per year.*

Period.	No. of Sheep.	Wool exported.	Value.	Wool exported per Sheep.	Nominal Value of Wool exported.	
					Per Sheep.	Per lb.
		Lbs.	£	Lbs.	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*
1851–55 - -	2,008,502*	5,508,567	305,091	2·79	0 3 0·46	0 1 1·29
1856–60 - -	1,694,386	5,132,539	389,907	3·02	0 4 7·22	0 1 3·89
1861–65 - -	1,733,158	4,781,396	379,624	2·76	0 4 4·57	0 1 7·06
1866–70 - -	1,583,298	5,068,373	342,502	3·20	0 4 3·91	0 1 4·22
1871–75 - -	1,525,105	5,349,369	366,105	3·44	0 4 9·61	0 1 4·45
1876–80 - -	1,806,336	7,757,561	478,225	4·23	0 5 3·54	0 1 2·80
1881 - - -	1,847,479	8,269,724	498,400	4·47	0 5 4·75	0 1 2·46
1882 - - -	1,845,455	7,748,500	432,768	4·19	0 4 8·28	0 1 1·40

* I think the number of sheep during these years must have been over-estimated. The quantity of wool, and the price per sheep, favour this view.

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MINES AND QUARRIES.

Gold Mining.

The following is an abstract of the results of gold mining during last decade :—

—	1873.	1874.	1875.	1876.	1877.
Average number of persons employed No.	230	185	101	129	354
Approximate value of mining plant - £	10,550	10,265	15,660	14,800	17,600
Gold roduced { Quantity, ozs. -	4,661	4,651	3,010	11,107	5,777
Gold roduced { Value, £	18,390	18,491	11,982	44,923	23,289

(*continued.*)

—	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.
Average number of persons employed, No.	1,050	2,060	1,653	1,286	1,591
Approximate value of mining plant - £	46,000	60,200	67,200	84,600	110,600
Gold produced { Quantity, ozs. -	25,249	60,155	52,595	56,693	49,122
Gold produced { Value, £	100,000	230,895	201,297	216,901	187,337

Compared with the previous year it would appear that, although the number of persons employed in gold mining during 1882 is greater by 305, and the approximate value of mining plant greater by 26,000*l.*, yet the yield has declined 7,571 ounces, and the estimated value has declined 29,564*l.* Mr. A. W. Glover, Commissioner of Gold Fields, in his report, however, draws particular attention to the impossibility of obtaining anything approaching a complete account of the produce of gold from the alluvial workings. Miners in isolated good paying workings have many reasons for withholding information respecting their earnings or the real value of their claims, and a reference to the nominal exports is not of much value in arriving at an exact estimate of the gold produce, as it is stated that a considerable quantity in the possession of travelling miners and others finds its way to other places without being recorded in any way. The following

is a comparative statement of the yield of gold per man for the years 1881 and 1882, and also for the last decade :—

——		1882.	1881.	Decade, 1873-82.
Gold produced - - -	£	187,337	216,901	1,053,505
Average of men employed per day	No.	1,591	1,286	864
Average value of gold produced per man per year - -	£	117·74	168·66	121·94

Tin Mining.

The results of tin mining for the year 1882 are as follows :—

——		Alluvial Claims.	Lode Mines.	Total.
Persons employed - -	No.	2,022	289	2,311
Mines or claims - - -	No.	187	22	209
Tin ore produced: Tons - -		5,330	265	5,595
Tin ore produced: Value -	£	339,794	16,919	356,713
Tin ore produced: Value per man	£	168·05	58·54	154·35

There is no record of certain particulars for previous years, and many interesting comparisons cannot therefore now be established; but the objection stated respecting the nominal quantity and values of exported gold cannot seriously affect the nominal quantity and values of the tin exported during each, which are given as follows : -

Tin exported from Tasmania, 1873–82.

——	Slag.	Ore.	Metal.	Value.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	£
1873 - - -	—	4	—	220
1874 - - -	—	142	—	7,318
1875 - - -	—	—	366	31,325
1876 - - -	—	544	1,072	99,605
1877 - - -	—	3,526	2,221	296,941
1878 - - -	110	1,691	4,146	316,311
1879 - - -	172	75	4,316	303,203
1880 - - -	—	3	3,951	341,736
1881 - - -	—	4	4,120	375,775
1882 - - -	—	81	3,589	361,046
Total for decade -	282	6,070	23,781	2,133,480

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Thus the nominal value of tin exported during the last decade exceeds the public debt of Tasmania, on 31st December 1882, by 82,880*l.*

The following particulars regarding this important industry will also be of considerable interest:—

	1882.	1881.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Yearly mean price (English quotation) per ton - max.	105 15 5	94 10 10
Yearly mean price (English quotation) per ton - min.	98 5 5	90 6 8
Local quotation per unit* - max.	0 18 5	0 16 0
Local quotation per unit* - min.	0 17 0	0 15 6
Average per cent. of assay of dressed tin ore - per cent.	72·00	—
Average yield at smelting works - ,,	70·21	—
Mean assay of Mount Bischoff metallic tin - ,,	99·87	—

* The unit of tin is equivalent to $\frac{1}{100}$th of the ton of metallic tin.

There is always a considerable difference between tin ore produced and metallic tin exported during any one year, owing to the fact that large quantities of ore and metal in transit or in stock belonging to one year are exported during the following year.

Of the total tin produced during 1882, the following is a statement of the relative importance of the various tin-producing centres of Tasmania:—

	Value.	Per cent. to Total.
	£	
North-Eastern Division - - -	169,339	47·47
North-Western Division - -	185,474	52·00
South-Eastern Division - - -	265	0·07
Western and South-Western Division -	1,635	0·46
Total - - - -	356,713	100·00

Coal Mines.

Of coal mines there were nine in operation during the year 1882, which, in all, only produced 8,803 tons, valued at 6,228*l.* This is below the yield of 1881 by 2,360 tons, and below the average yield of the last decade by 869 tons. The number of men employed upon the coal mines during the year is stated to be 56.

Stone Quarries.

During the year 1882 there were 29 quarries stated by collectors to be in operation, employing on an average 140 men.

The following is a statement of the stone quarries for lime and building purposes:—

	Tons.	Value.
		£
Blue-stone - - - - -	6,552	1,638
Lime-stone - - - -	24,700	1,080
Flag-stone and free-stone - - -	114,550	8,144

This account, however, is probably much under the mark, as there is a considerable quantity of stone quarried, which cannot be ascertained by collectors in some districts.

TRADES AND MANUFACTORIES.

The number of trades and manufactories enumerated for the year 1882 is 3,521. It exceeds the number for the previous year by 84. The following is an abstract of the principal groups:—

	No.
Trades relating to, and manufacture of, machine tools and instruments - - - -	285
Building houses - - - - -	537
Drinks and stimulants - - - -	467
General dealers - - - - -	468
Supply of food - - - - -	618
Dress - - - - - -	381
Miscellaneous - - - - -	765
	3,521

Jam Manufactories.

Special information has been obtained for the year 1882 with respect to the manufacture of jam and beer. In the jam manufacture, which is wholly confined to Hobart and its vicinity, there are 320 persons engaged—202 males and 118 females. The capital invested is estimated to be 56,000*l.* The quantity of jam manufactured during the year 1882 is stated to be 4,455,981 lbs. valued at 106,256*l.*; and the estimated quantity of raspberry and other fruit used in the manufacture of jam, 3,063,838 lbs. Nearly all the jam manufactured is exported; only 87,640 lbs., valued at 2,090*l.*, have been sold for local consumption.

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The following is a statement of the direction of the jam exported for 1882 :—

	Lbs.	Value.
		£
United Kingdom - - - -	8,310	230
Victoria - - - - -	160,538	3,883
New South Wales - - - -	3,474,203	83,381
South Australia - - - -	216	6
Western Australia - - - -	200	10
New Zealand - - - -	430,328	9,879
Queensland - - - - -	294,546	6,777
Total - - - -	4,368,341	104,166

Thus by far the greater part of our jam manufactured is directly exported to New South Wales.

Breweries.

Of the 12 breweries in operation in Tasmania, four are situated in Hobart, four in Launceston, and four in the country districts. In all there are 104 persons employed, and the capital invested in buildings and equipment is stated to be 72,587*l.* The quantity of beer brewed during the year 1882 is 1,211,264 gallons, equal to 10·03 gallons per head of the population, and the duty paid upon 1,155,599 gallons is stated to be, in round numbers, 14,445*l.* There appears to be only 1,387 gallons exported.

The total quantity of malt liquor imported during the year is stated to be 55,595 gallons. Thus the total amount of malt liquor available for consumption for Tasmania during the year 1882 appears to be 1,209,807 gallons, equal to 10·03 gallons per head, of which 95·42 per cent. was of local manufacture.

Waterworks.

The several systems for the storage and supply of water in Tasmania have been constructed at a cost of 174,000*l.*, of which following is an abstract of the particulars :—

	Storage capacity.	Length of Aqueduct and reticulation.	Cost.
	galls.	m. ch.	£
Hobart - - -	40,000,000	73 55	100,000
Launceston - -	1,050,000	36 41	65,000
Campbell Town - -	6,040,000,000	5 0	7,000
New Norfolk - -	—	4 40	2,000
Total - -	6,081,050,000	119 56	174,000

Salmon and Trout Breeding Establishment.

During the year 1882 there were distributed the following ova and fry, viz., 27,000 ova and 3,950 fry in the following manner:—

For	Ova.	Fry.
South Australia - - - -	5,000	—
Victoria - - - - -	14,000	—
New South Wales - - - -	5,000	—
Hamilton-on-Forth - -	3,000	—
Rivers Northern Tasmania - - -	—	1,950
River Plenty - - - -	—	2,000
	27,000	3,950

The receipts were: for sale of ova, 120*l.*; licences, 176*l.* 10*s.* total receipts, 296*l.* 10*s.* The net expenditure, including expenses incurred in connexion with importation of ova from England, appears to have been 377*l.* 5*s.*

Law, Crime, and Protection.

Legislation.

There was only one session of Parliament during the year 1882 (46 Vict.), which opened on the 11th July and closed on the 1st November, covering a space of 119 days.

During the session there were introduced 67 Bills, of which 53 passed into law, six were lost or laid aside in the House of Assembly, and six were lost or lapsed in the Legislative Council.

Litigation.

Civil Causes and other Cases tried.

The following is an abstract of the civil causes tried in the various courts during the year 1881, together with comparisons with the former year and with the average of the last decade:—

—	1882.	1881.	Average of last Decade 1873-82.	1882.—Increase or Decrease as compared with	
				1881.	Average of Decade.
Supreme court, ordinary jurisdiction—					
Summonses issued - No.	235	372	299	−137	−64
Causes tried - - No.	6	16	14	− 10	− 4
Claimed - - - £	—	—	—	—	—
Awarded - - £	344	451	806	−107	−462
Supreme Court, under Small Debts Act—					
Summonses issued - No.	92	95	83	− 3	+ 9
Causes tried - - No.	62	63	56	− 1	+ 6
Claimed - - - £	2,181	1,928	2,010	+253	+171
Awarded - - £	894	937	811	− 43	+ 83

—	1882.	1881.	Average of last Decade 1873-82.	1882.—Increase or Decrease as compared with	
				1881.	Average of Decade.
Court of requests—					
Summonses issued - No.	3,842	3,990	3,012	− 148	+ 830
Causes tried - - No.	2,248	2,387	1,816	− 139	+ 432
Claimed - - - £	21,872	21,697	17,627	+ 175	+4,245
Awarded - - - £	12,427	13,348	9,490	− 921	+2,937
All courts—					
Summonses issued - No.	4,169	4,457	3,394	− 288	+ 775
Causes and cases tried - No.	2,316	2,466	1,886	− 150	+ 430
Claimed - - - £	24,053	23,625	19,637	+ 428	+4,416
Awarded - - - £	13,665	14,736	11,007	−1,071	+2,658

Thus, upon the whole, the number of cases issued and tried, and the amounts awarded, were considerably under corresponding numbers and amounts for 1881. On the other hand, there is generally a very large increase as compared with the average of the decade, with the exception of the causes tried under ordinary jurisdiction of the Supreme Court, the number of which is lower in 1882 than during any former year of the decade.

Probates and Letters of Administration.

In 1882, as compared with previous year, although the number of probates and letters of administration was slightly increased, the value of property sworn under was less by 131,609*l.* The average value of each estate in 1881 was 1,741*l.*, and in 1882 942*l.*, *i.e.*, a decrease of 45·90 per cent. The following table gives fuller information respecting the years 1881 and 1882:—

Probates and Letters of Administration.

—	Probates.		Letters of Administration.		Both.		Average value of each Estate.
	Number.	Property sworn under.	Number.	Property sworn under.	Number.	Property sworn under.	
		£		£		£	£
1881 - -	124	267,973	50	35,011	174	302,984	1,741
1882 - -	131	142,191	51	29,184	182	171,375	942
Increase -	7	—	1	—	8	—	—
Decrease -	—	125,782	—	5,827	—	131,609	799

During the last decade, 1873-82, the number of probates and letters of administration was 1,430, and the value of property sworn under amounted to 2,103,328*l.* The average value of each property was, in round numbers, 1,471*l.*

Bankruptcies.

There were only 19 cases of bankruptcy during the year, that is, just about half the average per year of the last ten years. Of these 15 were voluntary, and four compulsory. The number of bankruptcies has not been so low since the year 1873. This is a most healthy sign, and corroborates other evidences indicating the prosperous condition of the country during the year 1882. So far as a return of the assets and liabilities of bankrupts are given, the former bear the relation to the latter of 57·34 : 100.

Divorce.

Three petitions for dissolution of marriage were presented to the Supreme Court during the year 1882, two of which were granted. There were also two Protection Orders granted by the Court. The numbers differ little with those for the three previous years.

OFFENCES.

The following is a comparative statement of the offences in respect of which persons were brought before magistrates during the years 1881 and 1882 :—

Number of Cases brought before Magistrates.

——	1882.	1881.	Increase.
1. For offences against the person -	646	541	105
2. For offences against property -	869	708	161
3. Other offences - - -	7,305	6,317	988
	8,820	7,566	1,254

Thus the total number of cases brought before magistrates during 1882 exceeds that of the former year by 1,254, or 16·5 per cent.

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The mode in which the cases were dealt with during 1882 is as follows :—

		Per cent. to Total.	Per 10,000 Persons.
Summarily convicted or held to bail* -	5,837	66·18	483·60
Order for payment of money† - -	1,107	12·55	91·71
Committed for trial in Supreme Court‡ -	93	1·05	7·71
Cases withdrawn or dismissed - -	1,783	20·22	147·72
Total - - -	8,820	100·00	730·74

* Includes 32 cases of lunacy.

† Principally composed of persons summoned before magistrates for non-payment of rates.

‡ Differs slightly from figures given by registrar of Supreme Court.

It would appear from this that only 1·05 per cent. of the offences were deemed to be sufficiently serious to commit for trial in the Supreme Courts. 78·73 per cent. of the whole were minor offences, which were dealt with summarily ; and 20·22 per cent. of the cases were withdrawn or otherwise dismissed.

As regards the minor offences summarily dealt with, the following analysis is most significant :—

Minor Offences summarily dealt with.

	1882.		Average of Decade, 1873–82.	
	No. of Cases.	Per cent. to Total.	No.	Per cent.
Drunkenness - -	1,787	30·61	1,484	29·38
Other minor offences -	4,050	69·39	3,567	70·62
Total - -	5,837	100·00	5,051	100·00

Thus, relatively to other minor offences, the number of cases of drunkenness is higher in 1882 than the average number per year of the decade. The actual number of convictions (1,787) for drunkenness is also higher during 1882 than in any year of

the decade, there being one case of drunkenness per year to every 67 of the population. There was only one case per year to every 74 of the population for the decade as a whole. It must not be inferred, however, that each case within the year represents a separate individual, for it often happens, in respect of the minor offences, especially, that the same individual is convicted over and over again. Nevertheless, as regards drunkenness, I quite agree with Mr. Hayter in the statement (p. 353, Year Book, 1881-2), "that vigorous efforts on the part of those who are "seeking to suppress or mitigate the evil is not uncalled for, "especially when it is remembered that large as is the number of "persons taken into custody each year for this offence, arrests "therefor are very seldom made unless it is accompanied with "disorderly conduct."

Comparisons with other countries cannot be satisfactorily established in respect of minor offences brought before magistrates. In Tasmania non-payment of rates and taxes is included among offences relating to revenue, and constitute, during 1882, 27·43 per cent. of the total number of cases which appeared on summons. It does not appear that such cases are so dealt with elsewhere, and consequently in comparisons the number of minor offences in Tasmania is made to appear higher than would be the case if the classification of minor offences was in every respect the same.

Crimes of a serious nature.

Although drunkenness and other minor offences during 1882 compare unfavourably with the immediately preceding years, it is somewhat singular to find that the crimes of a serious nature actually and relatively are much lower than during any former year.

Persons committed, tried, and convicted in Supreme Courts 1881, 1882, *and yearly average* 1873-82.

	1882.	1881.	Yearly average of Decade, 1873–82.
Committed for trial - -	90	99	108
Found insane, remanded, or not prosecuted - - - -	36	35	29
Tried - - - - -	54	64	79
Convicted - - - -	36	51	57
Per-centage tried to persons committed -	60·00	64·64	73·15
Per-centage convicted to persons tried -	66·66	79·68	72·15
Per-centage convicted to persons committed - - - -	49·00	51·51	52·78

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Thus, as regards commitments, the number in 1882 is lower than that of the yearly average of decade by 16·66 per cent., and lower than that of 1881 by 9·10 per cent. As regards cases tried, the number in 1882 is lower than that of the yearly average of decade by 31·65 per cent. and lower than that of 1881 by 15·53 per cent. As regards persons convicted, the number in 1882 is lower than that of the yearly average of decade by 36·84 per cent., and lower than that of 1881 by 29·41 per cent. Taken in any way there is a great reduction during 1882 in respect of crimes of a serious nature, notwithstanding the increase in cases of drunkenness and the increase in population.

It is also most gratifying to note the position which Tasmania takes in comparison with other countries:—

Crimes in various countries compared.

	Proportion of		
	Commitments to 10,000 Persons.	Convictions to 10,000 Persons.	Convictions to Commitments.
England and Wales,* average of five years 1876–80	6·40	4·86	75·90
Scotland,* average of five years 1876–80	7·57	5·82	76·96
Ireland,* average of five years 1876–80	7·97	4·31	54·29
Australasian Colonies—			
Victoria,* average of five years, 1876–80	7·88	5·81	61·01
New South Wales,* average of five years, 1876-80	24·06	14·29	59·55
Queensland,* average of five years, 1876–80	15·98	8·41	52·64
South Australia,* average of five years, 1876–80	13·01	7·19	55·25
West Australia*, average of five years, 1876-80	29·78	14·11	47·69
New Zealand*, average of five years, 1876–80	11·86	6·77	59·01
Tasmania, average of five years, 1876–80	9·85	5·38	54·45
Tasmania, average of five years, 1878–82	9·42	4·88	51·85
Tasmania, year 1881	8·44	4·35	51·51
Tasmania, year 1882	7·46	2·98	40·00

* Average of five years for these countries calculated from Mr. Hayter's Table, p. 372, Year Book, 1881–2.

Thus, for the mean of five years, Tasmania, Victoria, and New Zealand take up the first position among the Australian Colonies as regards the lowest number of commitments and convictions in the Superior Courts. For 1882, Tasmania takes up a position relatively still more favourable in this respect. Altogether,

allowing that convictions in relation to commitments seem to be exceedingly low, Tasmania compares most favourably with other countries in freedom from those crimes of a serious character which were dealt with in the superior courts.

Crimes undergoing punishment in Gaols and Penal Establishments.

During 1882 there were altogether 1,960 prisoners confined at various times, and for different periods, in the various gaols and penal establishments, of which 1,305, or 66·58 per cent., were males, and 655, or 33·42 per cent., were females.

On the average there were only 220 males and 66 females (*i.e.* 66·58 and 33·42 per cent. respectively) confined per day during the whole year, and the average duration of confinement per individual prisoner was equal to 53 days for the year 1882.

The following abstract gives the proportion as regards the frequency of crime in respect of the individual prisoners for the year 1882, together with a comparison with the figures of the previous year:—

Order of frequency of Crime.

—	1882.			1881.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
	NUMERICAL.					
1. Convicted three or four times before	580	393	973	565	343	908
2. Convicted once before, including last conviction	574	174	748	590	139	729
3. Convicted twice before	140	80	220	183	36	219
4. Unspecified	11	8	19	—	—	—
Total	1,305	655	1,960	1,338	518	1,856
	CENTESIMAL.					
1. Convicted three or four times before	44·45	60·00	49·64	42·23	66·86	48·92
2. Convicted once before, including last conviction	43·98	26·57	38·16	44·10	26·12	39·28
3. Convicted twice before	10·73	12·21	11·23	13·67	7·02	11·80
4. Unspecified	0·84	1·22	0·97	—	—	—
Total	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00

No information is afforded to enable me to ascertain the actual number of distinct individuals confined during the year 1882; but when we consider that during this period 72·21 per cent. of the women and 55·18 per cent. of the men are declared to have received not less than three sentences, and that the classes of offences such as drunkenness and other offences against good order are repeated and punished at short intervals in respect of the same person, we may be sure that a considerable number of the

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cases making up the total of 1,960 would be represented by a few indivduals.

In the report of Commissioners on Penal Discipline in Tasmania, it appears that, in a period of seven years, 95 distinct individual females represent no less than 1,272 cases, or each individual female 13·38 cases; and 71 distinct individual males represent 589 cases, or one individual male 8·29 cases.

If the prisoners undergoing sentences of more than one year were eliminated the average of 53 days for 1882 for each case would be very much reduced; for example if 50 persons of the daily average represented sentences of longer duration than one year, which is not improbable, then the remaining cases (1,817) would, on the average, only have been confined 28·17 days in prison.

CRIME AND EDUCATION

Tables give particulars regarding the education of the 1,960 cases already dealt with in respect of frequency of crime. The following is an abstract:—

Education of Prisoners in Gaols, 1882.

	Numerical.			Centesimal.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Unable to read - - -	357	269	626	27·35	41·07	31·94
Able to read only - - -	92	101	193	7·05	15·42	9·94
Able to read and write - -	856	285	1,141	65·60	43·51	58·22
Total - - -	1,305	655	1,960	100·00	100·00	100·00

At first sight it would seem that education had little influence as a protection from crime generally; but, although the larger number of offences (58·22 per cent.) has been committed by persons who could both read and write, it must be remembered that a very much larger proportion of the population over 15 years of age is composed of persons who can read and write: and if the per-centage proportion of the various classes in prison be compared with the ascertained per-centage of the same classes in the general population over 15 years of age it will at once be seen that the per-centage of those who are unable to read (especially as regards women) is greatly in excess of the proportion of the same class in the general population over 15 years of age; and conversely, the per-centage of those in prison who are able to read and write is very much lower than the proportion of the same class in the general population over 15 years of age.

Education of Prisoners and Population over 15 years of age compared, 1882.

—	Per-centage Prisoners.			Estimated per-centage of Population over 15 years of age.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.*
1. Able to read and write -	65·60	43·51	58·22	79·70	81·76	80·61
2. Unable to read - - -	27·35	41·07	31·94	13·70	10·05	12·02
3. Able to read only - -	7·05	15·42	9·84	6·60	8·19	7·37
Total - - -	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00

* Based upon the per centages of the last census (1881). Ages under 15 only contribute three per cent. of the criminals in prison.

Thus compared, it is clear that the section of the population over 15 years of age which cannot read or write yields proportionally 3·7 times more criminals than the section which can both read and write. How far education is in itself a protection, or how far lack of the same is a result of other conditions directly leading to the perpetration of certain offences, it is difficult to say ; † but it is most probable from the foregoing analysis that the state of ignorance in itself is responsible for a considerable number of the offences against society.

Ages of Prisoners.

The following table shows to what extent certain groups of ages contribute to the criminal list for the year 1882 :—

——	No.	Per cent. to Total.
Under 15 years of age - - -	63	3·21
15 to 25 years of age - - -	383	19·54
25 to 65 years of age - - -	1,270	64·80
65 and over - - - - -	244	12·45
Total - - - -	1,960	100·00

* Mr. Herbert Spencer, in commenting upon "Education and Crime" (p. 379, Social Statics), states :—"Before any inference can be drawn, it must be shown that "these instructed and uninstructed convicts come from two *equal* sections of society "*alike in all other respects* but that of knowledge. * * Ignorance and "crime are not cause and effect ; they are coincident results of the same cause."

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Birth-places.

The following is a statement showing the per-centage for 1882 of prisoners born in different countries; viz., Australasian Colonies, including Tasmania, 38·93 per cent., England and Wales, 28·11 per cent.; Ireland, 23·06 per cent.; Scotland, 8·27 per cent., other British Colonies, 0·56 per cent.; and foreign countries, 1·07 per cent.

PROTECTION—CIVIL AND MILITARY FORCES.

The following is a brief statement of the strength of the Civil and Military Forces for the year 1882:—

	No.
Police Force—	
Municipality of Hobart - - -	44
Municipality of Launceston - -	33
Rural municipalities - - -	120
Territorial police force - - -	104
Total police force - - -	301
Volunteer Force—	
Southern division - - -	399
Northern division - - -	197
Total volunteers - - -	596
Grand Total - - -	897

It would appear, therefore, that in relation to every 1,000 of the population there are 2·45 police and 4·86 volunteers. In relation to area there are for each 100 square miles 1·15 police and 2·27 volunteers.

The cost of maintaining the police force for the year 1882 was, territorial, 13,592*l.*; municipal, 24,267*l.*; total, 37,859*l.*,—equal to 6*s.* 3·29*d.* per head of population. Of this sum 18,819*l.* (nearly 50 per cent.) was contributed by the general Government, and 19,040*l.* by local Government.

Elsewhere the cost of maintaining the Defence Forces (Volunteers) during 1882 was shown to be 5,709, representing 1·14 per cent. of total general expenditure, or 0·95*s.* per head of the population. These figures show a slight increase over those for the previous year.

INTELLECTUAL, MORAL, AND SOCIAL PROVISION.

Education.

Statistics regarding the education of children at the school age (7 to 14 years) must necessarily be imperfect so long as it is not made compulsory to register all private schools, together with the names of professional or paid private instructors. If this were done, it would be an easy matter to make a yearly census on a well chosen

school day, which would enable us to gain more satisfactory information with respect to the working of the Act which provides for the compulsory education of all children within the limits of the ages 7 to 14.

In the census year 1881 the following results were obtained which enable us to some extent to gauge the value of our systems of education in respect of children:—

Number of persons at various Ages.

	Persons.		Per cent. to Total.	
Under 5 years - - -		16,192		13·99
5 and under 7 years - -	5,866		5·07	
7 and under 14 years - -	19,322		16·70	
14 and under 20 years - -	16,080		13·90	
		41,268		35·67
Total under 20 years -		57,460		49·66
All other ages - -		58,245		50·34
Total population - -		115,705		100·00

Thus compulsory education only affects 19,322 persons, or 16·70 per cent. of the total population. If we now attempt to gauge the immediate results of school training, we must, for all practical purposes, exclude ages under 5, and 20 and over. The remainder (5 years of age and under 20) number 41,268 persons, or 35·67 of the total population. In respect of these latter, the analysis of the census table gives the following result:—

Education of Persons 5 years of age and under 20.

Read and write - - - -	70·14
Read only - - - -	12·11
Could not read - - - -	17·75
	100·00

As regards school attendance, of the 19,322 children living at the school age (7–14), the following table shows the numbers, proportionately, of scholars trained under the various private and State schools, and the numbers which failed to comply with the compulsory provisions of the Act:—

School Attendance, 1881.

Ages 7–14.	——	Per cent. to Total.
Attending schools receiving Government aid	7,545	39·05
Attending private schools - - -	4,521	23·40
Receiving instruction at home - -	3,075	15·91
Children not at school - - -	1,984	10·22
Unspecified - - - - -	2,197	12·42
Total persons 7 and under 14 -	19,322	102·00

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The per-centages of all ages receiving instruction were as follows:—Public schools, 44·08 per cent.; private schools and home instruction, 55·92 per cent.

It is somewhat unsatisfactory to find so large a number as 12·42 per cent. unspecified in ages 7–14; but, from comparisons made with the yearly statistics furnished by the Secretary of the Board of Education, it is evident that the numbers returned in the census table correspond more closely with the average number registered on the school rolls than with the average actual attendance; and, therefore, it is clear that at least 10 per cent. of the children at school age failed to comply with the compulsory provisions of the Education Act. This is in accord with the general results of education in ages of 5 and under 20, where it has already been shown that the proportion of persons who could not read was equal to 17·75 per cent. of the total number of persons living within this age group.

With respect to the year 1882, the following table gives full particulars regarding public schools:—

	1882.	1881.
	No.	No.
Estimated number of children living in Tasmania between the ages of 7 and 14 years	20,157	19,232
Public schools—		
Schools	181	175
Instructors	351	356
Instructors per 100 scholars on roll	3·76	3·84
Scholars—		
Distinct individuals on the roll	13,775	13,644
Distinct individuals on the roll per 100 of the estimated number of children living between the ages of 7 and 14 years	68·38	70·61
Average on roll	9,302	9,258
Average on roll per 100 of the estimated number of children living between the ages of 7 and 14 years	46·15	47·91
Average attendance	6,711	6,701
Average attendance per 100 of the estimated number of children living between the ages of 7 and 14 years	33·29	34·68
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Expenditure from public and private sources	28,354 3 0	26,674 0 0
public sources, per each daily attendance	3 3 1	2 18 7½
private sources, per each daily attendance	1 1 5	1 0 11½
both sources, per each child attendance	4 4 6	3 19 7

As the ages of children attending school have not been furnished, it is impossible to compare results closely with those of the census year. Of the children attending the public schools during the year 1881 only about three fourths were of the school age—7–14

If we apply this proportion to the year 1882, the estimated number of children between 7 and 14 attending State schools would be nearly as follows :—

Estimated Attendance at State Schools at Ages between 7 and 14 years.

	No.	Per cent. to children living between 7 and 14.
Distinct individuals on the roll - -	10,330	51·25
Average number of scholars on the roll -	6,976	34·61
Average number of scholars in attendance -	5,033	24·97

Principal Grammar Schools and Colleges.

Of the principal grammar schools and colleges, eight have furnished returns for the year 1882. Five of these are described as denominational, viz., Church of England, 3 ; Roman Catholic, 1 ; Wesleyan, 1 ; and three undenominational. None of the superior schools or colleges receive Government aid directly, although in practice and design it is evident that the degree of Associate of Arts, the minor scholarships, and the chief prize, the Tasmanian Scholarships, under the control of the Tasmanian Council of Education, are intended to bring the superior instruction afforded by these institutions into harmonious and systematic relation with the various sources of primary education. The following is a statement regarding accommodation, average attendance, &c., in respect of the institutions referred to :—

Accommodation, Attendance, &c.

Accommodation available for 920 Students.

Average attendance :—	No.
Under six years - - -	30
ix years and under 15 - -	471
Fifteen years and upwards - -	272
Total - -	773

There are 23 bursaries or scholarships, ranging generally between 10*l.* and 20*l.* each, immediately in the gift of six out of the eight principal grammar schools. On the average there is about one instructor to 20 scholars.

Industrial and Ragged Schools.

In connexion with the various ragged schools there was an average daily attendance during the year 1882 of 363 children (183 boys and 180 girls) ; the average number on the rolls was

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541. The cost of maintenance was 745*l.*, equal to 1*l.* 7*s.* 10*d* per scholar per year, of which Government contributed 76·11 per cent. As compared with the previous year the average attendance of children was less by 30, and the expenditure shows an increase of 158*l.*

In the various industrial schools there were maintained during the year on an average 85 children (25 males and 60 females), at a cost of 1,730*l.*, or 20·35*l.* per head. Of the total subscriptions the general Government subscribed about 54·47 per cent.

Public Libraries.

So far as information can be obtained, there were 17 public libraries open to the public during the year 1882. In all they contain 37,138 volumes. The receipts for the year amount to 2,155*l.*, of which 310*l.* is subscribed by the Government. These libraries are open at convenient hours during working days, and appear to be well attended.

Royal Society.

During 1882 the Royal Society's Museum was visited by 21,649 persons. Nearly the half of this number visited the museum on Sundays. The number of visitors to the gardens during the year was 59,792. There is a very valuable scientific library attached to the museum, and the "Papers and Proceedings" of the Society published during the year contain valuable contributions to the natural history of the Island. Receipts, from Government, 800*l.*; from subscriptions and other sources, 311*l.*; total receipts, 1,111*l.* Total expenditure, 1,099*l.*

Hospitals.

The following statement contains some of the more interesting particulars regarding the various general hospitals and hospitals for the insane, for the year 1882:—

	1882.
	No.
Institutions - - - -	7
Accommodation for - - -	654
Individual cases treated - - -	2,195*
Persons died - - - -	212
Per-centage of deaths to cases treated -	9·61
Daily average in hospitals - - -	486
Total cost - - - -	21,628*l.*
Cost per case per year - - -	9*l.* 17*s.* 1*d.*
Proportion of Government aid to total contribution - - - -	85·89

* Besides these there were 2,556 cases of out-patients treated. Of the 2,195 cases referred to, 409, or 18·63 per cent., were treated as insane in the asylums at New Norfolk and Cascades.

Particulars regarding the hospitals at Waratah and Campbell Town were not furnished prior to 1882, and consequently comparisons in the aggregate between 1881 and 1882 are of little value.

As regards the cost per head and per case of the various hospitals, the following is a comparative statement regarding the various institutions, according to the order of least cost:—

Cost per Head of Hospital Inmates.

	Cost per Head per Year.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*
1. Hospital for insane, New Norfolk -	27	14	3
2. Ditto, Cascades - -	34	15	3
3. Ditto for contagious diseases, Cascades - - - -	52	9	4
4. General Hospital, Hobart - -	74	16	6
5. Ditto Launceston -	83	2	9

Cost per head of hospitals, Waratah and Campbell Town, cannot be accurately ascertained.

Cost per Case.

	Cost per Case.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*
1. Hospital for contagious diseases, Cascades - - -	3	19	2
2. General Hospital, Hobart - -	5	6	7
3. Campbell Town Hospital - -	6	17	7
4. General Hospital, Launceston -	7	12	2
5. Hospital for insane, New Norfolk -	23	4	11
6. Waratah Hospital - -	23	11	9
7. Hospital for insane, Cascades -	34	5	0

It should be stated, however, that the greater average permanency in some cases disturbs the comparative value of the factor per case; and the cost of general expenditure per head is greatly lowered where the number of cases and absolute expenditure are largest. Thus, although the total expenditure of the Campbell Town Hospital is only 613*l.*, the cost per case is 23*l.* 11*s.* 9*d.*, while the expenditure of the General Hospital, Hobart, although 5,612*l.*, only represents 5*l.* 6*s.* 7*d.* per case.

CHARITIES.

The following is a general statement regarding the persons maintained in the pauper establishments in Hobart and Launceston during the years 1881 and 1882:—

Pauper Establishments.

	1882.	1881.	Increase or Decrease.
Accommodation for inmates - No.	965	952	+13
Individual cases maintained - No.	1,843	—	—
Average number of persons maintained—			
Male - - - No.	635	701	−66
Female - - - No.	192	194	− 2
Total - - -	827	895	− 68
Persons maintained per 10,000 of the population - - - -	68	76	− 8

As regards age of paupers, it is interesting to note that 87 · 30 per cent. of the whole were over 55 years of age. As regards education, 45 · 63 per cent. could read and write; 15 · 41 per cent. could read only; and 38 · 96 per cent. could neither read nor write. Although there is a greater per-centage of paupers who can read and write as compared with those who cannot, it is somewhat surprising to find that their educational standard is considerably below that of the imprisoned criminals for the same year. The result cannot even be attributed to the extreme age of the former, for the census of 1881 shows that of the persons at ages 55 and upwards of the general population, 63 · 6 per cent. could read and write. Absolutely and relatively to population, the number of paupers has decreased as compared with the previous year. In 1881 there was 1 pauper to every 132 persons; in 1882 there was only 1 pauper to every 147 persons.

The total expenditure for the year was 10,545*l.*, or 12*l.* 15*s.* per head average of daily inmates. Nearly the whole of the cost of the pauper institution is provided for by the general Government.

Benevolent Societies.

Besides the work of regular pauper establishment, the benevolent societies in Hobart and Launceston afforded relief to 655 persons, and the Administrator of Charitable Grants relieved 619 cases of distress thoughout the island.

The amount expended by the benevolent societies during the year 1882 was 1,907*l.*, equal to a sum of 2*l.* 18*s.* 2¾*d.* for each case

relieved. The amount expended by the Administrator of Charitable Grants for the same year was 4,968*l.*, equal to a sum of 3*l.* 15*s.* 2*d.* for each case relieved.

Public Charities generally.

Exclusive of the large expenditure in connexion with hospitals, ragged and industrial schools, it would appear that the pauper and benevolent institutions alone expended a sum of 17,420*l.* in the relief of 3,117 distinct individual cases, equal to a sum of 5*l.* 11*s.* 9·28*d.* per case, or 2*s.* 10·63*d.* per head of population, of which the general Government contributes 16,371*l.*, or 93·97 per cent.

The total amount expended by the general Government upon charities of all descriptions, including hospitals, for the year 1882 is 46,270*l.*, equal to 9·20 per cent. of the total general expenditure of the year, and representing 7·67*s.* per head of the population.

Friendly Societies.

The returns furnished by the friendly societies are still far from being satisfactory, although the list has been greatly improved. During 1882 there were 50 lodges, or district lodges, which filed returns.

The number of members is stated to be 4,815. Receipts, 15,258*l.*; expenditure, 12,639*l.*, or 2*l.* 12*s.* 5·98*d.* per member. The capital is stated to be 34,346*l.*, equal to 7*l.* 2*s.* 7·95*d.* per member. No information has been received as regards the direction in which the moneys have been expended.

Life Assurance.

The following information with respect to life assurance is of considerable interest:—

	No.		
Societies	8		
Policies in force	4,881		
	£	*s.*	*d.*
Policies, amount	1,560,188	0	0
Average amount assured per policy-holden	320	0	0
Average per society	195,023	0	0
Average per head of population	12	14	10
Policies secured per 100 of population	3·97		
Estimates ditto per 100 of adult ditto	8·01		

It is a somewhat curious coincidence that the number of policies assured, 4,881, should be nearly equal to the number of members who are returned as belonging to the various friendly societies for the same year.

TASMANIA.

In conclusion, while I have earnestly endeavoured to make the general statistics for the year 1882 as complete as the very limited means at my disposal would admit, I regret to state that the necessity of attending personally to other important duties made it utterly impossible for me to devote to the details of statistical matters that constant and close supervision which their importance demands.

I take this opportunity of gratefully acknowledging the valuable assistance I have constantly received from the Government printer and his officers in the preparation of matters for publication.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ROBT. M. JOHNSTON,
Government Statistician
and General Registrar.

The Hon. Wm. Moore,
Chief Secretary, Hobart.

Statistical Summary for Tasmania from 1880 to 1882 inclusive.

Year.	Population.					Vital and Meteorological.*						Intellectual Provision.		
												Government Schools.		
	Total on 31st December.	Males.	Females.	Immigrants.	Emigrants.	Births.	Deaths.	Marriages.	Barometer, Mean.	Thermometer, Mean.	Rainfall in Inches.	No.	Scholars on the Rolls.	Average Daily Attendance.
									inches.	degrees.	inches.			
1880	114,762	60,550	54,212	10,411	10,025	3,739	1,832	840	—	—	—	171	12,286	6,002
1881	118,923	63,234	55,689	12,579	11,163	3,918	1,733	856	—	—	—	175	13,644	6,701
1882	122,479	65,131	57,348	12,822	11,403	4,043	1,909	969	—	—	—	181	13,775	6,711

(*continued.*)

Year.	Crime.					Interchange.										
	Number of Persons.					Postal.				Telegraph and Telephone.†			Railway.			
	Taken into custody and summonsed.	Summarily convicted.	Committed for Trial.	Convicted after Commitment.	Executed.	No. of Post Offices.	No. of Post Miles.	No. of Letters.	No. of Packets and Newspapers.	No. of Offices.	No. of Miles Wire.	No. of Messages.	No. of Miles open.	Train Miles run.	Receipts.	Working Expenses.
															£	£
1880	8,336	5,308	129	73	—	201	1,831	2,682,329	2,345,700	64	963	108,730	167½	400,945	73,740	68,487
1881	7,566	4,685	99	51	—	206	1,862	2,994,148	2,237,504	68	1,024	147,660	167½	401,773	78,867	72,146
1882	8,820	5,837	90	36	1	209	1,883	3,363,331	2,484,174	94	1,228	199,427	167½	405,020	88,014	75,980

* No records obtained for the years 1880, 1881, and 1882.

† Prior to 1882, Government lines alone are recorded.

Statistical Summary for Tasmania from 1880 to 1882 inclusive—*continued.*

Year.	Interchange—*continued.*																
	Tramways.	Roads.		Shipping.				Imports.				Exports.					
				Inwards.		Outwards.		Value or Number of Live Stock imported.			Total Value of Imports.	Total Value of Exports.	Value or Number of Live Stock exported.			Timber, value.	Grain, Hay, Flour, Meal, and Bran, value.
	Miles.	Miles.	Cost.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.			Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.		
			£						£		£	£				£	£
1880	—	4,079	30,741	654	205,217	655	208,086	29	1,708	11,193	1,369,223	1,511,931	101	—	385	51,973	40,098
1881	—	4,536	30,655	694	192,024	689	191,738	68	1,953	11,458	1,431,144	1,555,576	161	—	1,306	56,605	23,726
1882	61	4,538	26,525	733	208,934	718	208,484	27	927	4,795	1,670,872	1,587,389	348	—	1,937	52,748	101,651

(*continued.*)

Year.	Interchange—*continued.*								Finance.					
	Exports—*continued.*								Revenue.				General Expenditure.	Public Debt.
	Jams, Fruit, Potatoes, and other Vegetable products.	Hops, value.	Wool.		Gold.		Tin (ore and smelted).		Total.	By taxation.		Other Sources.		
			Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.		From Customs.	Other Taxes.			
	£	£	lbs.	£	ozs.	£	tons.	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1880	149,823	30,885	9,025,228	542,244	50,999	201,655	3,954	341,736	442,158	217,717	82,524	141,917	415,196	1,943,700
1881	194,566	23,663	8,269,724	498,400	54,348	211,253	4,124	375,775	505,006	254,591	90,133	160,283	463,684	2,003,006
1882	255,619	26,963	7,748,500	432,768	41,277	160,910	3,670	361,046	551,213	288,523	82,333	180,357	502,771	2,050,600

Statistical Summary for Tasmania from 1880 to 1882 inclusive—*continued.*

Year.	Accumulation.											Production.		
	Banks.					Savings Banks.			Mortgages.		Valuation of Property.	Crown Lands.		
	No.	Deposits.	Coin.	Assets, 31st December.	Liabilities, 31st December.	No.	No. of Depositors.	Amount of Deposits.	No.	Amount secured.		Acres sold.	Acres leased.	Revenue from Sales and Rental of Crown Lands.
		£	£	£	£			£		£	£			£
1880	5	2,122,091	483,435	2,214,988	2,264,647	2	13,520	310,081	734	373,562	705,032	38,750	2,557,918	53,413
1881	5	2,600,113	516,515	2,716,027	2,755,767	2	14,728	369,278	753	407,483	714,112	31,335	1,888,053	66,421
1882	5	2,864,297	505,836	2,989,928	3,097,319	3*	16,367	388,727	735	705,403	745,420	27,167	1,951,507	74,231

(*continued*)

Year.	Production—*continued.*														
	Agriculture and Horticulture.									Live Stock.				Produce of Whale Fisheries.	No. of certain Trades and Manufactures.	Flour Mills in operation.
	Acres in Cultivation.	Acres in Crop.	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Potatoes.	Apples.	Pears.	Hops.	Horses.	Horned Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.			
			Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Tons.	Bushels.	Bushels	Lbs.					£		
1880	373,299	140,788	750,040	439,446	169,156	32,548	155,237	22,086	644,273	25,267	127,187	1,783,611	48,029	12,045	3,339	62
1881	374,374	148,494	977,365	783,129	102,475	33,565	142,217	22,271	668,846	25,607	130,526	1,847,479	49,660	22,120	3,487	60
1882	377,486	147,555	946,889	788,713	89,739	37,526	234,805	24,864	1,101,243	25,857	122,504	1,845,455	7,826	19,096	3,521	58

* Does not include Branch Offices.

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WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

No. 2.

Governor Sir F. NAPIER BROOME, K.C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY.

Government House Perth,
June 23, 1884.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1883, together with a report thereon by the Colonial Secretary, the Hon. M. Fraser, C.M.G.

2. If my Despatch of the 28th of January last,* giving an account of my recent journeys, be read with this Despatch and its Enclosures, I think a fairly complete idea of the present condition and circumstances of the Colony will be gathered.

3. The excess of imports over exports is a noticeable feature of last year's statistics. In 1883 the exports of the Colony were valued at 447,010*l.*, or 136,045*l.* less than in 1882. The causes of this are a smaller shipment of wool, and otherwise as pointed out in the report. They will not, I trust, be permanent.

4. The recent comparative prosperity of Western Australia is no doubt partly due to the expenditure of considerable sums of borrowed money upon public works, and great caution is necessary in continuing this policy. But the resources of the Colony itself are gradually developing; and in particular, persons with a small or moderate capital, say of from 300*l.* to 2,000*l.* would at the present time be able to do better here, I think, than in any other Colony of the Australasian group. In fact, it seems to me to be a distinctive feature of this Colony that it still offers a promising field for capitalists on a small scale, always supposing that they are able and willing to work, that they are possessed of a fair amount of shrewdness and judgment, and that they do not expect too much.

5. Neither has Western Australia been as yet overdone as a field for the emigration of the labouring classes. There is a good opening here for honest workers of this description; and the Government are spending money and making efforts to introduce them.

6. I trust to be able to send the Blue Book at a much earlier date next year.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. NAPIER BROOME.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Derby,
&c. &c.

* No. 3 in [C.-4015] May 1884.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Perth,
June 20, 1884.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith, for your Excellency's information, a report on the Blue Book of Western Australia for the year 1883.

I have, &c.
(Signed) MALCOLM FRASER,
Colonial Secretary.

His Excellency
F. Napier Broome, Esq., C.M.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

REPORT on the BLUE BOOK for 1883.

1. *Taxes, Duties, and other Sources of Revenue.*

The statute laws of the Colony under the authority of which the public revenue is obtained, remained unaltered, and other sources of supply continued on the same basis as for the previous year 1882.

2. *Revenue.*

In 1883 there was received by the Colonial Treasury the sum of 276,113*l.* 19*s.* 7*d.* from sources within the Colony, and also the grant-in-aid on convict account for magistracy and police for the year from the Imperial Government, amounting to 8,250*l.*, making altogether a total of 284,363*l.* 19*s.* 7*d.* The estimated revenue on the same accounts was 229,140*l.* Receipts above stated give an increase of Revenue above that of the previous year, amounting to 33,991*l.* 17*s.* 1*d.* This increment was gathered from customs, land revenue, licenses, postages, and commission on money orders, telegrams, mail van receipts, fines, forfeitures, and fees of court, fees of office, duty on horses exported, railway receipts, refunds, special receipts, interest, special revenue north district, and miscellaneous.

The decrease in certain items is comparatively trifling, and can be readily accounted for. For instance, the operation of Stamp Act, 1881, caused a reduction of receipts in 1883 of 258*l.* 6*s.* 5*d.* as compared with 1882, the first year it was in force, and the Brand Act of 1881 brought large revenue in 1882, owing to the obligation it imposed on stock-owners to re-register their brands.

The revenues of the Colony are derived indirectly. An individual living on his own ground, and only consuming the products that come from his own or other labour within the Colony need contribute nothing; but where luxury is sought for or property acquired, then demand for a contribution arises for the support of the good management and government of the whole Colony. The revenue received during the past ten years and the loans

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

raised for public works, and the colonial population during the same period, are as follows:—

Year.	Revenue.	Public Debt.		Population.
	£		£	
—	—	Raised by Act 1872 -	35,000	
—	—	„ „ 1873 -	100,000	
1874 - -	148,073	- - - -	-	26,209
1875 - -	157,775	- - - -	-	26,709
1876 - -	162,189	Raised by Act 1876 -	26,000	27,321
1877 - -	165,413	- - - -	-	27,838
1878 - -	163,344	Raised by Act 1878 -	200,000	28,166
1879 - -	196,315	- - - -	-	28,668
1880 - -	180,050	- - - -	-	29,019
1881 - -	*254,313	Raised by Act 1881 -	150,000	30,013
1882 - -	250,372	- - - -	-	30,766
1883 - -	284,363	Raised by Act 1882 -	100,000	31,700
		Total -	611,000	

* 48,107*l.* of this amount was money recovered from loan on account of construction of Eucla telegraph.

3. *Expenditure.*

A total sum of 240,566*l.* 2*s.* 11*d.* was expended, being 35,114*l.* 16*s.* 9*d.* in excess of that for 1882. This increase mainly was incurred in surveys, judicial expenses, works and buildings, roads and bridges, and immigration. Payments on any excess of expenditure on particular items over and above the sum provided by the Appropriation Act were made by the advice of the committee of advice appointed under "The Audit Act of 1881."

4. *Military Establishment.*

The contribution to volunteer corps, with salary and expenses of inspecting officer, amounted to 2,677*l.* 9*s.* 9*d.* in 1883; the actual strength of the various corps, in 1882, was 24 officers and 551 men; in 1883, 23 officers and 512 men; showing a decrease during the latter year of 1 officer and 39 men.

5. *Public Debt.*

This has been alluded to in connection with the Colonial revenue. It has been caused solely by the raising of loans for the construction of railways, telegraphs, roads, and other public works.

6. *Public Works and Railways.*

The return shows a total of 98 separate works carried on in 1883, and, upon examination, it is found that 17,158*l.* 5*s.* 1*d.* was expended on works and buildings; 10,540*l.* was expended on roads and bridges by the various district roads boards;—and

besides, from loans, the construction of public offices, Perth; residency, Roebourne; court house, Fremantle; jetty accommodation, Fremantle; Guildford Bridge; Northern Telegraph Line; Eastern Railway, 2nd and 3rd sections; were either completed or proceeded with.

The Eastern Railway has been completed to Chidlow's Well, a distance of 42¼ miles, and the construction further to York, a distance of nearly 48½ miles, entered upon.

The private railways belonging to the different Timber Companies in the south have been maintained and worked by them during the past year.

7. *Telegraphs.*

1,584¾ miles are in work, and 750 miles are being constructed, connecting Northampton with Roebourne.

8. *Legislation.*

The following Statutes were passed by the Legislature and became law:—

Date of the Law, &c.	Substance of the Law, &c.	Transmitted to England.
	46th VICTORIA.	188 2.
Reserved, 21st Sept., 1882: Royal Assent proclaimed 24th February, 1883.	No. 24.—An Act to increase the number of Members to serve in the Legislative Council	October 24.
Reserved, 23rd Sept., 1882; Royal Assent proclaimed 16th April, 1883.	No. 25.—An Act to provide for the more effectual Control of all Moneys raised by Loan for Public Works purposes.	December 7.
		1883.
April 19th, 1883 -	No 26.—An Act to give validity to certain Summary Convictions of Aboriginal Natives of the Colony.	April 23.
	47th VICTORIA.	
August 13 - -	No. 1.—An Act to confirm the Expenditure for the services of the year One Thousand eight hundred and eighty-two, beyond the grants for that year.	September 20.
„ - -	No. 2.—An Act for the Maintenance of proper Order and Discipline amongst the Imperial Pauper Invalids in the Imperial Invalid Depôt at Fremantle.	„
„ -	No. 3.—An Act to make provision for the recovery of the Expenses of the Inspection of Licensed Vessels.	„
„ - -	No. 4.—An Act to Incorporate the Governors of the Fremantle Grammar School.	„

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

Date of the Law, &c.	Substance of the Law, &c.	Transmitted to England.
	47TH VICTORIA.	1883.
August 15 - -	No. 5.—An Act to provide for the Payment of certain additional and unforseen Expenses in the year One thousand eight hundred and eighty-three, over and above the Estimates for that year.	September 20.
September 8 - -	No. 6.—An Act to consolidate and amend the Laws providing for the abolition of Grand Juries, and for the Summary Discharge, in certain cases, of Persons under Committal for Trial for Felonies and Misdemeanors.	,,
,, - -	No. 7.—An Act to regulate the Volunteer Force.	,,
,, - -	No. 8.—An Act to consolidate and amend the Laws providing for the summary trial and punishment of Aboriginal Native Offenders in certain cases.	,,
,, - -	No. 9.—An Act to determine the direction of the latter part of the Eastern Railway within and near to the Town of York.	,,
,, - -	No. 10.—An Act to amend "The Pearl shell Fishery Regulation Act, 1875."	,,
,, - -	No. 11.—An Act to enable "The Governors of the High School, Perth," to raise Money on Mortgage.	,,
,, - -	No. 12.—An Act to regulate and protect Electric Telegraphs.	,,
,, - -	No. 13.—An Act to consolidate and amend the law relating to Dogs.	,,
,, - -	No. 14.—An Act to repeal "An Ordinance to provide Additional Regulations for the Port of Fremantle.	,,
,, - -	No. 15.—An Act to provide for the Destruction of Rabbits in Western Australia.	,,
,, - -	No. 16.—An Act to provide for the Payment of the Salary of the Puisne Judge of the Supreme Court.	,,
,, - -	No. 17.—An Act to extend the provisions of the Shipping and Pilotage Acts, 1855 and 1873.	,,
,, - -	No. 18.—An Act to amend "The District Roads Act, 1871, Amendment Act, 1876."	,,
,, -	No. 19.—An Act to amend "The Municipal Institutions Further Amendment Act, 1882."	,,
, - -	No. 20.—An Act for the protection and better Administration of the Estates of Deceased Persons in certain cases.	,,

Date of the Law, &c.	Substance of the Law, &c.	Transmitted to England.
	47TH VICTORIA.	1883.
September 8. - -	No. 21.—An Act to authorise the establishment of Private Warehouses for goods subject to Customs Duties.	September 20.
,, - -	No. 22.—An Act to further Amend "The Transfer of Land Act, 1874."	,,
,, - -	No. 23.—An Act further to amend "The Wild Cattle Nuisance Act, 1871."	,,
,, - -	No. 24.—An Act to promote the further Settlement of the Colony of Western Australia by the establishment of a Board of Immigration, and of an Immigration Fund.	,,
,, - -	No. 25.—An Act to appropriate the sum of Two Hundred and Forty-five Thousand Four Hundred and Eighty-six Pounds and Threepence out of the General Revenue of the Colony for such services as shall come in course of payment during the year One thousand eight hundred and eighty-four.	,,
November 3 - -	No. 26.—An Act to legalise the use of the Totalisator under certain circumstances.	November 21.

9. *Education.*

The number of scholars on the rolls of the Government Schools on the 31st December, 1883, was 2,919, being 25 more than in 1882 (and beside these, were 107 scholars on the rolls of provisional schools, giving an increase of 32 on the previous year for these schools). The assisted schools had 1,142 on their rolls as against 1,157 in 1882, showing a decrease of 15. The Government schools cost for instruction, 3*l.* 6*s.* 10½*d.* per scholar; the assisted schools, 1*l.* 8*s.* 2½*d.* per scholar. The total charge against Education Vote was 9,770*l.*, a decrease of 5*l.* 19*s.* on the cost for 1882.

10. *Population.*

The increase in 1883 cannot be regarded as satisfactory. The public works carried out under loans have failed in the past to draw population.

The births in 1883 were 1,058. The increase of population 934. The arrivals and departures by sea do not show a result sufficient to balance deaths, consequently the advance in numbers is very slow. The Colony has borrowed largely for its means, and has spent considerable sums on immigration, but without obtaining the object sought after. The population of the Colony

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

certainly earns for the community good wages, judging from Exports; but it is done in a peculiar way, as is shown further on in this report; and the Colony has failed to attract and attach to the soil any number of fresh settlers, who readily flock to the eastern parts of Australia, and pass by its western seaboard as an undesirable location.

11. *Agriculture and products of the Soil.*

Farming cannot be said to advance. In the past decade of years, looking back, it will be seen that in 1873 there were 51,724 acres under cultivation; in 1883 there were 58,111. To investigate the results arising from the cultivation of these lands is not encouraging. The Colony still depends largely upon imports for breadstuffs and other farm produce.

The increase in the number of stock during the same period is more satisfactory:—

In 1873 there were	748,536	sheep	in the Colony.
Do. do.	47,640	horned cattle	,,
Do. do.	26,290	horses	,,
In 1883 there were	1,315,155	sheep	,,
Do. do.	64,558	horned cattle	,,
Do. do.	32,884	horses	,,

The sheep have nearly doubled in number in the past 10 years.

12. *Occupation of Crown Lands for Pastoral Purposes.*

The area of land held speculatively is enormous. It cannot be credited that the major portion will be profitably stocked or occupied within any fixed period.

At the end of 1882, 137,256,300 acres were held under lease or license, which brought into revenue a sum of 58,851*l.*; at the termination of 1883, 161,347,734 acres were similarly held, and the revenue received was 76,843*l.* on this account. Even at an average of 10 acres to a sheep, this area would feed 16,000,000. Where are they to come from within any reasonable time?

13. *Imports and Exports.*

The total imports are calculated at 516,846*l.*, of which those from the United Kingdom only amount to 231,338*l.* showing that the largest proportion come through or from the other colonies or foreign countries.

In 1874 the imports were 364,263*l.*, exports 428,837*l.*, and every year since the exports have been in excess of the imports, until 1883, when the total value of imports was 516,846*l.*, and exports were valued at 447,010*l.* The official value of corn, bran, and breadstuffs alone, was 57,531*l.* on the import side, while such supplies as bread and biscuits, butter, dried fruits, oatmeal, onions, and potatoes, also imported, were valued at 21,493*l.*, making a total import of articles, which the Colony might be presumed to be

capable of producing, amount to a first cost, net cash, of 79,024*l.* The preponderance in value of imports over exports for 1883 was calculated at 69,836*l.*

Specially in regard to exports it may be stated that pearl shell and mineral ore were depressed in price, and timber went to very uncertain markets, whilst sandalwood, heretofore regarded as a staple export, was unsaleable except at a loss to exporters, and still is so.

14. *Shipping.*

The vessels entered inwards in 1883 were 191 of 186,404 tons, as against 202 vessels of 172,698 tons in 1882. The outward vessels were 204, of 191,427 tons as against 201 vessels of 171,549 tons last year.

15. *Criminal Statistics.*

The comparative table of offences, apprehensions, convictions, and acquittals for the last four years, shows a greater absence of crime and a general improvement of the morals of the population in 1883 over previous years.

16. *Convict Establishment.*

Of all classes of convicts, including invalids and lunatics, there only remained a grand total of 323 in the Colony on the 31st December, 1883.

17. *Manufactures, Mines and Fisheries.*

There is nothing which calls for remark under this heading, excepting that the export of lead ore was only 1,038 tons in 1883, owing to the extremely low price of the metal in Europe. Hundreds of thousands of tons might be readily brought to grass and shipped now, with the appliances at command on the spot and the railway from Northampton to the port of shipment, if the price was only a paying one. The ruling price hardly meets the labour bill, without freight charges.

18. The other tabular returns included in the Blue Book do not need comment, being merely recitals of ordinary facts.

19. *Concluding Remarks.*

The impetus that has arisen from the borrowing of money for public works has been sensibly felt all over the settled districts; the labour market has risen, perhaps unfortunately, for the reason that the farming class declare that they cannot pay the wages now demanded, and consequently land has been allowed to go out of cultivation. An appeal that has been made to settlers to nominate persons as immigrants has met with the response, "it will not pay to farm with such wages to pay as are now current." Thus the production of the fruits of the soil is stopped by a fictitious rate of wage, caused by a demand for labour on Public

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

Works constructing on borrowed capital. A little capital flowed into the Colony in 1883 for the purchase of properties in the towns, but country lands which have been improved have no fixed market value.

This Colony is in many ways essentially different from others of the Australasian group, and organisations which perfectly meet the conditions of the others are found illsuited here. Profitable fields of labour will open outside and beyond the ordinary avocations of English colonists, and the common food of the inhabitants of the Western seaboard of Australia will, perhaps, be found most economically grown out of the Colony; but a sure certain progress will be attained, and a prosperous settlement of this section of Australia achieved, if men will adapt their hands to develop its capabilities.

(Signed) MALCOLM FRASER,
Perth, W.A., 20th June, 1884. Colonial Secretary.

JAMAICA.

JAMAICA.

No. 3.

Governor Sir H. W. NORMAN, K.C.B., C.I.E., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY.

MY LORD, King's House, May 30, 1884.

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship the accompanying report on the Blue Book of Jamaica for the financial year 1882–83.

2. As your Lordship is aware I did not assume the administration of the Colony for a period of nearly three months subsequent to the termination of the year now reported on.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. W. NORMAN,
Governor.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Derby,
&c. &c.

Legislation.

Twenty Laws were passed during the year, of which the following are worthy of note:—

Law 22 of 1882.—"The Boards of Health Law Amendment "Law."

This Law was introduced in order to provide means for the prevention of overcrowding in private houses, an abuse of which the existence was brought to notice in the report of the Com-

missioners appointed to inquire into the condition of the juvenile population of Jamaica.

Law 25 of 1882.—"The Morant and Pedro Cays Criminal Jurisdiction Law."

The Cays having been annexed to and made dependencies of this Colony, it became necessary, in order to bring them within the scope of the Criminal Law, to include them, for the purposes of that Law, within the limits of the city and parish of Kingston.

Law 29 of 1882.—"A Law to enable Parochial Boards, with "the sanction of the Governor in Privy Council, to raise additional "funds within their respective parishes for parochial road "purposes."

The ordinary parochial road funds having in some cases been found insufficient, this Law gives to the Commissioners in any parish so circumstanced power, subject to certain conditions, to augment their revenues with the approval of the Governor in Privy Council.

Law 32 of 1882.—"The District Courts Law, 1874, Amend-"ment Law."

The principal objects of this Law were to transfer from the Judges to the Governor the power of fixing the days for holding the sittings of the district courts and to bring into operation a new schedule of fees.

aw 33 of 1882.—"The Government Savings Bank Law."

This Law is a consolidation of the then existing Laws relating to savings banks in Jamaica.

Law 2 of 1883.—"The Token Prohibition Law, 1883."

The Law was passed to put a stop to an objectionable practice which was becoming common among country storekeepers of issuing tokens for money which to a great extent compelled the holders to deal at their shops.

Law 4 of 1883.—"The Kingston Streets Reconstruction Law, "1883."

This Law gives to the Parochial Road Commissioners of the parish of Kingston the power to raise a loan of 40,000*l.* for the reconstruction of the streets of Kingston and the power to carry out the work.

Law 5 of 1883.—"The Kingston Building Law, 1883."

This Law was prepared by, and introduced at the instance of, the Municipal Board of Kingston. Owing to the extensive building operations consequent on the fire of the 11th December 1882 it was considered as an opportune time for supplying the want of a stringent Act for regulating the erection of buildings in the city.

Finance.

The year under report commenced with a deficit of 18,174*l.* brought forward from the year before, which added to the expenditure proper of the year 451,508*l.* and sinking funds 13,648*l.*, and redemption of debt 3,100*l.*, gave a total amount of 486,430*l.*, while the receipts amounted to 491,606*l.*, which covered the

JAMAICA.

expenditure, wiped out the deficit, and left the small surplus of 5,176*l.* towards the ways and means of the succeeding year.

The appropriated revenues which are devoted to parochial roads, pauper relief, sanitary and other similar local services, and are administered by the several parochial boards, produced in 1882–83 85,634*l.*, which was a decrease of 4,806*l.* on the receipts from the same sources in the year immediately preceding. Those receipts, however, had been unusually large, particularly under the more important items of parochial road revenues and poor rates, and the year under report may be considered as considerably above the average.

The revenue appropriated to immigration services amounted to 17,234*l.* and the expenditure to 23,341*l.*, the difference being met from the balance in hand.

The usual comparative table of the whole of the Treasury receipts in the year under report with those of the previous year is given below :—

	1882–83.	1881–82.	Increase.	Decrease.
General Revenue.	£	£	£	£
Import duties, additional	255,318	244,957	10,361	—
Export duties	5,257	4,547	710	—
Light dues	1,839	1,736	103	—
Harbour master's fees	1,806	477	1,329	—
Rum duties	101,777	91,001	10,776	—
Licenses	14,431	14,770	—	339
Stamps	15,683	15,066	617	—
Postal revenues	15,306	14,572	734	—
Telegraph revenues	3,777	3,309	468	—
Court fees	6,967	7,309	—	342
Fines and forfeitures	2,680	2,546	134	—
Interest on securities for sinking funds	5,592	5,805	—	213
Interest other than as above	2,365	2,023	342	—
Jamaica railway revenue	25,839	26,034	—	195
Reimbursements for expenditure	17,469	18,273	—	804
Miscellaneous	12,356	13,771	—	1,415
Government savings bank revenue	3,144	9,099	—	5,955
	—	—	25,574	9,263
	491,606	475,295	16,311	—
Revenue specially appropriated.				
Parochial road revenues	39,810	41,047	—	1,237
Kingston street tax	705	1,288	—	583
Parochial municipal revenues	7,287	7,477	—	190
Poor rates	30,440	32,364	—	1,924
Sanitary rates	3,651	3,730	—	79
Fire rates	1,261	1,285	—	24
Gas rates	1,740	2,251	—	511
Miscellaneous	740	1,000	—	260
	—	—	—	4,808
	85,634	90,442	—	—

—	1882–83.	1881–82.	Increase.	Decrease.
Immigration Revenues.	£	£	£	£
Export duties - - -	13,824	16,105	—	2,281
Capitation tax - - -	92	513	—	421
Interest (general) - -	624	1,048	—	424
Record of planters' notes - -	2,588	2,470	118	—
Miscellaneous - -	106	109	—	3
	—	—	118	3,129
	17,234	20,245	—	3,011
Total immigration revenue -	17,234	20,245	—	3,011
Total revenues specially appropriated - - -	85,634	90,442	—	4,808
Total general revenue -	491,606	475,295	16,311	—
	—	—	16,311	7,819
	594,474	585,982	8,492	—
Receipts on Debt Account.				
Law 17 of 1880 - - -	—	200,000	—	200,000
Law 19 of 1880 - - -	41,600	359,100	—	317,500
Excess of deposits over withdrawals	18,121	5,072	13,049	—
	654,195	1,150,154	21,541	517,500
	—	—	—	495,959

The yield of the general revenue was 16,311*l.* in excess of the year before, the increase being principally under import duties, harbour master's fees (1,058*l.* of which, however, are only apparent, being on account of defalcations recovered), rum duties, stamps, and postal revenues. The increase under import duties is attributed to the increased importations necessary to replace the vast destruction of duty-paid goods by the fire in December 1882, that under rum duties to the general improvement of this item of revenue, under stamps to the large number of fire policies of insurance taken out after the great fire above referred to, and under postages to improvement in trade and the large number of letters now sent between the Colony and Colon. In connexion with the large decrease under Government savings bank revenue it should be explained that the unusually large receipts of the year before represented the accumulated profits of previous years, while the receipts in 1882–83 represent the surplus of interest for that year only.

The appropriated revenues show a decrease on every item, but, as has already been explained, the receipts in the year before were unusually large.

The immigration revenues are also considerably less than the amount received in the preceding year, and here, again, it should be explained that more than two thirds of the decrease are under

export duties, which, owing to the abnormally large product of sugar and rum in 1881–82, were of such an amount as could not have been expected again in the succeeding year. The capitation tax is of course gradually falling with the expiration of the indentures of those coolies indentured prior to 1877.

The following is a similar comparative statement of the Treasury disbursements compared with the year immediately preceding:—

	1882–83.	1881–82.	Increase.	Decrease.
General Expenditure.	£	£	£	£
Interest on debt	43,777	45,831	—	2,054
Pensions	13,411	13,765	—	354
Administrative departments	32,345	31,799	546	—
Revenue departments	32,514	31,867	647	—
Government savings bank	1,917	—	1,917	
Postal service	17,727	16,639	1,088	—
Telegraph service	3,707	3,269	438	—
Judicial	36,266	37,356	—	1,090
Ecclesiastical	7,481	7,677	—	196
Medical	50,141	51,457	—	1,316
Constabulary	48,669	49,399	—	730
Penitentiary and prisons	22,342	25,304	—	2,962
Reformatories	4,654	4,566	88	—
Education	25,064	22,865	2,199	—
Harbour masters	816	950	—	134
Colonial allowances to troops	4,417	4,286	131	—
Pilotage and Harbour Boards	298	476	—	178
Miscellaneous	6,898	7,727	—	829
Census, 1881	—	127	—	127
Steam communication round the Island	1,833	1,656	177	—
Steam communication with America	3,502	3,906	—	404
Public plantations and gardens	4,851	5,281	—	430
Jamaica Institute	927	972	—	45
Public works	52,483	53,906	—	1,423
Lighthouses	1,332	1,311	21	—
Parochial expenditure	2,059	2,132	—	73
Subsidy to West India and Panama Telegraph Company	2,000	2,000	—	—
Maintenance Jamaica Railway	14,112	12,776	1,336	—
Registrar-General's Department	2,955	2,851	104	—
Island Record Office	941	924	17	—
Government printing department	7,051	8,003	—	952
	—	—	8,709	13,297
	446,490	451,078	—	4,588

	1881–82.	1880–81.	Increase.	Decrease.
Expenditure from appropriated Revenues.	£	£	£	£
Parochial roads	33,746	33,853	—	107
Kingston streets	117	415	—	298
Parochial municipal objects	7,299	9,180	—	1,881
Relief of the poor	30,465	32,361	—	1,896
Sanitary appropriation	3,528	3,305	223	—
Gas appropriation, Kingston	1,885	2,410	—	525
Fire appropriation	1,301	1,109	192	—
	—	—	415	4,707
	78,341	82,633	—	4,292
Total expenditure from appropriated revenues	78,341	82,633	—	4,292
Total immigration expenditure	23,341	24,521	—	1,180
Total general expenditure	446,490	451,078	—	4,588
Expenditure out of Loans raised for the purpose.				
Jamaica railway	179,606	139,770	39,836	—
Jamaica telegraphs	414	282	132	—
Portland bridges	13	163	—	150
Miscellaneous expenses under Law 19 of 1880	—	2,718	—	2,718
	—	—	39,968	12,928
	728,205	701,165	27,040	—
Disbursements other than Expenditure.				
Sinking funds	13,648	14,853	—	1,205
Redemption of debt	3,100	168,935	—	165,835
Grand total	744,953	884,953	27,040	167,040
Disbursements	—	—	—	140,000

This expenditure shows a net decrease of 4,588*l.* on the amount of the year before, the principal decrease being under charges of debt due to the gradual redemption and further savings effected by the fuller operation of Law 19 of 1880; under Judicial owing to lapsed salaries and a decrease under services connected with inquests, &c; under Prisons owing to the number of prisoners in custody being considerably below the average; and under Public Works due to several services having been postponed. On the other hand, there are increases owing to the expenditure on account of the Government savings bank appearing for the first time as a charge on the general revenue, to the credit of which the surplus of interest is now carried; under Postal Services owing to extensions and the larger amount now demanded as contribution of this Colony towards the postal union; under Education as

increased amounts have been carried under the grants in aid, which are paid by results; and under Maintenance of the Jamaica Railway owing to an increased importation of materials.

The expenditure from appropriated revenues is of course regulated by the amounts received, and is entirely in the hands of the several parochial boards; the changes hardly call for any special remarks.

The immigration expenditure is, in its turn 1,180*l.* less than the expenditure of the previous year, which occurred under the more miscellaneous expenses.

Pensions.

During the year seven pensions, amounting in all to 922*l.*, were granted on the principles of the Imperial Superannuation Acts and Treasury Rules. The pension list has been, on the other hand, relieved by the death of eight pensioners, who drew 532*l.*

Debt.

No fresh debt was incurred in the year under report, but the operations for the consolidation of the Island debt under Law 19 of 1880 were concluded, involving transactions of 41,600*l.* raised and 57,850*l.* paid off. The operations under this Law were more fully explained in the report of last year, and will effect a relief in the annual charges on general revenue to the extent of 14,000*l.* a year.

14,000*l.* of debt under the old Immigration Loans was paid off during the year, as well as 2,800*l.* on account of the Kingston Street Reconstruction Loan, this latter amount being met from the surplus of the special sources of revenue under that law, and 1,300*l.* of the loan under the 27th Vict., chap. 24, was also paid off.

The public debt directly secured on the general revenue has stood as follows on the 30th September in each of the last ten years, after making allowance in each year for the sinking funds actually invested for the eventual redemption of debt:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
1874 - - -	539,108	8	2
1875 - - -	548,024	3	7
1876 - - -	501,413	8	5
1877 - - -	485,107	11	5
1878 - - -	641,644	10	9
1879 - - -	718,608	11	11
1880 - - -	721,481	6	8
1881 - - -	920,924	19	4
1882 - - -	1,238,750	0	0
1883 - - -	1,257,916	2	1

The increase in the year under report is due to the completion of the entries connected with the operations under Law 19 of 1880, under which a large portion of the Island debt has been

consolidated at a reduced rate of interest, as was more fully explained in the report of last year.

The amounts of debenture debt due by the several undertakings named below stood as under on the 30th September last :—

	£
Rio Cobre irrigation - - -	126,500
Kingston and Liguanea waterworks - -	92,200
Kingston markets - - - -	20,000
Kingston gasworks - - - -	30,000
Kingston slaughter-house - - -	10,000

In none of these cases has it yet been found practicable to make from the special revenues any provision for the repayment of capital, although in one (the Kingston waterworks) some provision can now be made towards the redemption of debenture debt; while in regard to the Rio Cobre Irrigation Loan, the general revenue was called upon under its guarantee to pay 5,133*l.* during the year as the deficiency of receipts against interest on loan and working expenses of the canal.

Legislative Council.

During the year the unofficial members of the council tendered the resignation of their seats, which were accepted by Her Majesty. No appointments were made to fill the vacant seats.

The Council met on the 7th of November 1882, and was prorogued, after several lengthy adjournments, on the 10th of April 1883. During this session twenty Laws were enacted.

Civil Establishment.

There were several changes in the higher offices of the Civil Service

Colonel G. M. Wiseman-Clarke, as senior member of the Privy Council, assumed the government on the 21st April on the departure of Sir Anthony Musgrave, K.C.M.G., to administer the government of Queensland. Major-General Gamble, who had been specially ordered to transfer his headquarters from Barbados to Jamaica, arrived here on the 4th of May and, as officer in command of the regular troops within the Colony, became the senior member of the Privy Council and succeeded to the administration of the government.

Sir John Lucie Smith, C.M.G., Chief Justice, died on the 9th of June while on leave of absence.

The Honourable E. N. Walker was appointed Colonial Secretary on the retirement of the Honourable Mr. Newton on account of ill-health.

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Mr. James Allwood was appointed, provisionally, Assistant Colonial Secretary on Mr. Walker's promotion.

Mr. Richard Gillard was, on the 1st May, appointed to act, provisionally, as Collector General in the room of Mr. D. P. Trench, who retired from the service on a pension, and Mr. Goldie was appointed, provisionally, to act as Collector of Customs for Kingston.

The changes among the District Court Judges were as follows :— Mr. Henry F Gibbons was appointed a District Court Judge in November 1882 in the room of Mr. E. T. Smith deceased, and Mr. Robert Baird was dismissed on 8th August 1883 from his office of District Court Judge.

There were also many changes among the holders of other offices, but all appointments were made provisional awaiting the result of the report of the Royal Finance Commissioners.

Main Roads and Public Works.

The total expenditure under all heads of the Public Works Department (except the railway for the year 1882–83) amounted to 61,739*l.* 5*s.* 5*d.*, of which main roads and bridges absorbed 27,033*l.* 1*s.*, and other services, such as new works on public buildings, repairs, and maintenance of public buildings, &c., 34,706*l.*

The condition of the main roads at the close of the year was fair. The cost of maintenance of roads and bridges per mile is stated at 30*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*, as against the average of the five previous years of 33*l.* 9*s.* 11*d.*

No works of any magnitude have been executed on main roads, bridges, or public works. The Kew Bridge in Hanover was reconstructed and the Greenock Bridge in St. Ann erected; beyond these the works have been restricted generally to repairs and improvements.

Of new public works there are none of a character to call for especial mention. Perhaps one may be mentioned, however, on account of its usefulness and novelty here, viz., the establishment of imperial standard measures of length in the Parade Gardens, Kingston. They comprise standard measures of 1 chain, 100 feet, 1 yard, 2 feet, and 1 foot.

Rio Cobre Irrigation Works.

The cost of working the canal and its branches reached 1,436*l.* 8*s.* 1*d.* against a revenue actually received of 2,327*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.* The engineer in charge reports that there has been no increased demand for water and he fears that unless a central sugar factory be established, thereby showing the advantages to be derived by cane cultivation from irrigation, the demand for water will not be

materially increased, the greater portion of the land being now under cultivation in grass, which is only irrigated to a very limited extent.

The engineer of the works, who has devoted much attention to the cultivation of fruit trees along the banks of the canal, estimates that within ten years the revenue from these trees will be sufficient to cover the cost of the ordinary maintenance of the works, and he instances a case in which the yield of an estate under irrigation is estimated to have been increased last year by 150 per cent. beyond what would otherwise have been the crop.

EXISTING RAILWAY AND EXTENSION WORKS.

1. *Existing Lines.*

The chief points which invite attention in the working of the present lines in operation are the steady increase in the passenger traffic and the decrease of the working expenses, which latter have for last year fallen to 49 per cent. of receipts, excluding the wharf revenue and expenses, and if the wharf be included the working expenses of the whole concern do not exceed 50 per cent. of the receipts, although a very heavy expenditure for repairs to the wharf and premises belonging to it was charged against revenue during the year.

Taking the capital outlay on the open lines of railway the net revenue yields a per-centage of 7⅔ per cent.

2. *Extensions.*

The progress on these works has been satisfactory and should the supply of labour continue good there ought to be no difficulty in completing the lines by the date fixed in the contract. On the Porus line the permanent way is laid to 3 miles 50 chains and is progressing, and the line is partially ballasted up to 3 miles 30 chains.

The goods shed at May Pen is completed and the passenger station at Four Paths is in progress.

The Ewarton line has been laid and ballasted up to 5 miles 20 chains.

The buildings at the Bog Walk and at Linstead are in progress.

Government Lands.

The operations under the 184th section of Law 22 of 1874 for obtaining possession of lands squatted upon have been extremely limited.

Lands in various parts of the Island have been leased and sold in usual course as they have come into possession of the Government.

District Courts.

The business transacted in each of the last 10 years is shown in the following summary :—

—	1874.	1875.	1876.	1877.	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.
Criminal trials -	3,210	3,545	3,862	3,707	4,054	3,319	3,197	4,372	3,279	3,870
Small causes -	7,982	8,531	9,446	9,212	9,616	7,704	7,652	7,779	6,907	4,638
Judgment summonses - -	1,397	1,511	1,736	1,670	1,579	1,592	1,692	1,514	1,304	836
Equity cases -	7	5	6	8	21	20	15	19	14	20
Cases under Land Law - -	228	133	309	222	163	104	126	159	78	66
Bankruptcy cases	6	4	13	17	5	1	8	1	6	4
Probate cases -	23	39	62	93	94	102	109	147	131	123
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Amount claimed -	50,325	52,093	56,490	60,894	63,300	51,510	47,408	54,736	45,735	33,236
Judgment obtained	25,773	26,048	27,970	30,976	32,348	28,479	34,056	30,747	26,946	19,781
Costs - - -	4,212	5,812	4,952	5,531	5,626	4,952	4,957	5,351	4,496	3,735
Court fees - -	4,721	4,994	5,597	5,436	5,491	4,757	4,484	4,588	4,073	3,708

There were 11 appeals from the decisions of the courts during the year, six being in civil and five in criminal cases; in three cases judgment was reversed, one case was referred back, in one the judgment was set aside, in one the order was annulled and the case ordered to be restored for re-hearing, four appeals were dismissed, and in one case the conviction was affirmed.

Botanical Gardens.

The results of the year's working of this department are satisfactory, and its usefulness to the agricultural interest of the Island cannot but be apparent to those who read the records of its work during the 12 months under review.

The distribution of plants and seeds from the several gardens was carried on during the year to about the same extent as last year and was of considerable proportions. The new varieties (60) of sugar cane under experimental cultivation at the "Hope" were especially in great demand. The distributions made by the department are much aided by the gratuitous and careful conveyance of plants to the outports of the Island by the Atlas Steam Ship Company and by the facilities afforded by the railway and the Post Office.

The recent occasion of the absence on leave of the Director of Public Plantations and Gardens was made the opportunity by him of collecting from Honduras, Louisiana, St. Helena, and Madeira a large number of valuable plants and seeds for experimental propagation here, notably upon his visit to St. Helena, whither, by desire of the Secretary of State, he had gone to make a special report.

The herbarium of indigenous plants which has been under formation for some time is most useful, and it is satisfactory to

know that it has received extensive additions during the year. This herbarium will be most interesting to students in the Colony, and as it is proposed to place duplicates of the specimens in the museum at Kingston it will be readily accessible to persons visiting Jamaica.

The propagation of plants of the cacao (Theobroma C.) for distribution received attention, and the caracas, a new variety, was added to the collection kept up at Castleton Gardens. The demand for cacao plants for propagation was large, and, unfortunately, could not be fully met from the gardens. The cultivation of this valuable tree has for the past few years received considerable impetus in the Colony, encouraged by the favourable results of shipments to the English markets of cacao grown here, samples of which have attained almost to the standard of Trinidad cacao. Under these circumstances it is to be expected that attention to the production of the tree will be sustained here, where so many parts of the Island possess a soil and climate favourable to its growth.

The Liberian coffee seems still to be a favorite among the newly cultivated economic plants, as it appears that 1,633 plants were distributed from Castleton Gardens during the year besides a great quantity of the "Cherries" or seeds.

The cinchona plantations have not been extended during the year, operations being confined to the improvement and supply of fields already under cultivation, the rearing and distribution of plants, and to the harvesting of a moderate quantity of bark.

The experiment of harvesting the bark by the shaving process was carried out in a plantation containing Cinchona Succirubra in order to determine whether in this country a more profitable return might be yielded by the process, and the result was very satisfactory. It was also found that the effect of the process was not injurious to the tree, and that the renewal of the bark took place all over the plantation in an almost uniform manner. Added to this, it has been found that renewed bark is much richer in alkaloids than the first skin.

Owing to the difficulty experienced in the preparation of jalap to suit the market, its cultivation has been somewhat restricted. But the market price received for shipments already made (6*d.* and 7*d.* a lb.) give assurance of fair return to any one who would take up the cultivation of the drug, an enterprise which requires little capital. The objection to the experiment here has been that the tubers are sliced instead of being dried whole, which it has been found impossible to compass without the use of a drying machine.

The Parade Garden at Kingston continues a place of resort and of recreation to the inhabitants, who fully appreciate its advantages. Although the drought and the strong sea breezes which often prevail prevent a display of flowers which it is the gardener's desire to secure, the wide-spreading trees standing in

different parts of the park and forming conspicuous objects in the landscape afford grateful shade from the glare of a tropical town.

The cocoanut plantation at the Palisadoes continues to do well. There are about 23,000 trees planted out, and in different stages of growth, about 5,000 of which are in bearing. In the course of time machinery might with advantage and profit be applied on the spot, whether the plantation be retained in the hands of Government or not, to the manufacture of oil and coir.

Education.

The summary of results in this department for the year 1882–83 compared with the previous year is as follows:—

Year.	Schools inspected.	Schools aided.	Scholars on Books.	Scholars in average attendance.	Percentage in average attendance of number on Books.	Class of School.					Grants in aid.
						I.	II.	III.	Ex.	F.	
											£
1882-83	668	645	56,312	32,203	57·19	47	212	315·61	10	23	19,254
1882 -	677	627	53,366	29,894	56·02	47	164	354·55	7	50	18,225
Incr.	—	18	2,946	2,409	1·17	—	48	6	3	—	1,029
Decr.	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	39	—	27	—

A change in the mode of calculating the grants in aid has been introduced by which a school is enabled to gain credit up to a later date than has hitherto been practicable, for its state of proficiency and the amount of grant to each school is now determined by the class to which it may have attained in the last quarter of the year.

A satisfactory advance is perceptible in the course of education for the year, but it must be admitted (looking at the number of children in the Colony, namely, 123,824 between the ages of five and 15 in the last Census) that those on the books of the elementary schools, viz., 56,312, are in a very insufficient proportion to the total number of the ages at which education should be carried on. The number of children above stated as on the books of elementary schools is of course apart from that of children in private schools; a large disparity exists, too, between the number of children in average attendance and those on the books, the difference being nearly one half.

Local and special causes may more or less affect the attendance from year to year, and in the year under report these causes have been prominent, but the main cause must be ascribed to the indifference of parents and their not unnatural objection to lose their children's services, which at certain seasons of the year are of great value to them In certain parts of the country the children's labour is also in demand on sugar estates and for pimento picking. The commissioners appointed to inquire into the condition of the juvenile population of Jamaica reporting in 1879 recommended the adoption for this class of children of a

half-time system, which they believed could be adopted without any objection on the part of the employer, that is, by requiring so many weeks' attendance during each quarter; but the difficulty to be overcome in this direction is the provision of a sufficient number of schools in suitable localities. The difficulty has not yet been overcome. In the course of time no doubt, as education spreads, this class of waifs will be reached. Notwithstanding the drawbacks above alluded to, the following table shows a satisfactory progress in the cause of education :—

Year.	Able to Read and Write.	Able to Read only.	Total.	Centessimal Proportion of Persons above 5 years of Age.
1861 - -	50,726	68,333	119,059	31·3
1871 - -	71,074	81,398	152,472	35·0
1881 - -	115,418	115,750	231,168	45·7

The question of establishing a Government training college for female teachers has recently received some attention. The higher education of women generally has received very little if any Government assistance here in the past, and of the lower classes there has been little done in this direction beyond a purely elementary education more limited in the case of girls even than of boys. The benefit to be derived from the establishment of a higher standard of education for women is evident in all countries, but the more evident in a colony with the social history of Jamaica.

It is noticed as a defect requiring remedy that children after leaving school soon lose the knowledge they acquired through their disuse of books, and it ought not to be a matter of wonder. It is only since the more frequent steam communication with the United States of America, that cheap literature has been obtainable here. American reprints of English works are now to be had at charges within the reach of all, and a love of reading will be encouraged by this means. The recent establishment of small book clubs at the instance of one of the assistant inspectors of schools is calculated to do much towards counteracting the tendency to retrograde above referred to as noticeable in those who receive an elementary education. The Royal Commissioners who recently reported on the finances have themselves advocated the opening of reading rooms in various localities. There are already in some of the towns of the Island reading rooms affiliated to the Jamaica Institute, which receive periodical supplies of books from the library in connexion with the Institute.

A great want exists in the entire absence of books suitable to school children here. Books full of interest to the European child lose half their charms in the mind of a native of a tropical

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country, who cannot grasp the meaning of allusions to seasons, places, birds, animals and scenes with which he is quite unfamiliar.

The first annual examinations of students in training colleges, and of teachers under regulations issued in 1882, were held in December of that year. Only four teachers presented themselves for examination, owing to the unavoidably short notice given. Of these two were successful and received first class certificates. The Inspector of Schools reports that "no voluntary training "colleges applied for examination, and the only colleges examined "were therefore the Government College at Spanish Town, and "the Mico Institution." This year (1883–4), he adds, "application "was made for the examination of the Calabar Baptist Training "College, from which 14 students were presented and examined. "Fifteen teachers also attended the examination which was held "at Spanish Town, Kingston, and Mandeville."

The Inspector concludes his annual report with the statement that "in all parts of the Island there seems to be signs of an "awakened interest amongst teachers and people which encourages "much hope for the future."

It cannot be denied that a very great deal yet requires to be done for the education of the people of this Colony, but considering the history of the days before freedom, which itself came less than fifty years ago, the efforts of the Government and of the religious societies since education was really and seriously taken in hand have resulted in great advantage to the people, and is highly appreciated. A great drawback has been the want of trained teachers, but it is hoped that year by year the students from the training colleges now in full operation will supply the want and provide men better trained in every way than most of those with whom the work of education has for many years had to be carried on.

Immigration.

During the year the immigrants introduced consisted of only one ship load of 396 souls; these were allotted to estates in the parishes of Westmoreland, St. Elizabeth, Clarendon, St. Andrew, St. Thomas, and St. Mary.

One ship load consisting of 415 souls was returned to India. During the same period these people lodged the sum of 5,540*l.* for remittance to India and carried with them also a large value in jewelry.

The immigrants by the "Silhet" and "Chetah" in 1878 completed their five years' industrial service during this year, and the majority have remained as labourers on the estates to which they were originally allotted.

Bounty was paid to the immigrants who arrived in the "Latona," "Lincelles," and "Stockbridge" in 1873 and who elected to remain in the Island; the remainder were sent back to India.

It is satisfactory to observe that the death rate amongst the indentured immigrants was as low as 2·25 as compared with 4·56 last year; the births have been somewhat less than last year, 1·82 against 2·23.

During the year circumstances arose under which it was found expedient to proclaim the republic of Mexico a "prohibited place" within the meaning of Law 23 of 1879 in order to prevent Indian immigrants from entering into contracts for industrial service in that country and quitting this Island for such service.

Applications were received during the year for only 996 Immigrants to arrive in next season, but the delay on the part of applicants in sending in their requisitions has prevented their wants being met. To obviate the serious inconvenience which might be the result in the present state of the labour market the Secretary of State has consented to the introduction of Chinese immigrants, and arrangements are in progress to obtain them.

Among a people so prone to wife murder as the East Indian immigrants in the several Colonies have proved themselves it is remarkable that not one case of murder has occurred this year among these people in this Colony. This pleasing circumstance must in a measure be attributed to the close supervision of the Inspectors of Immigrants who have received special orders in regard to the removal from estates of immigrants whose presence at any particular spot is likely to give rise to discord.

The state of the Immigration Fund on 30th September was satisfactory, there being to credit 10,674*l.* subject to the charge of about 6,000*l.* for the return coolie ship on her voyage to Calcutta. There was also 9,166*l.* 12*s.* 3*d.* at credit of the return passage fund. There was no necessity in face of those credits to discount the employers' notes for the immigrants introduced this year.

There are now in Jamaica 13,245 East Indian immigrants, of whom 7,903 have completed a ten years' residence; these latter may therefore be regarded as a portion of the fixed population.

Government Savings Bank.

The number of depositors and the amount of deposits in the bank for the last 10 years are shown below:—

Year.	Number of Depositors.	Amount of Deposits.
		£
1873	3,962	158,933
1874	4,582	179,176
1875	5,061	228,028
1876	5,431	243,171
1877	5,756	253,983
1878	6,002	273,620
1879	6,341	294,589
1880	7,297	333,970
1881	7,970	342,339
1882	9,543	324,847
1883	11,925	325,705

In the above amount are included eight deposit accounts for the following public funds:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Immigration colonization fund - -	385	13	10
Immigration return passage fund -	9,066	12	3
Constabulary reward fund - -	972	6	6
Sinking funds - - - -	7,510	7	0
Smith and Beckford's charity - -	2,139	0	1

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There are, further, 142 accounts for trusts, charities, chancery suits, Administrator-General, and bankrupt estates amounting to a total deposit of 33,023*l.* 11*s.* The remaining 11,783 deposits of 272,600*l.* 15*s.* 1*d.* are all ordinary savings bank accounts. Of the 11,925 accounts, 11,047 did not exceed 100*l.* and 7,063 did not exceed 5*l.* Among the depositors were 718 coolies with deposits amounting to 15,173*l.*

The above figures show the progress which the savings bank has made. The number of accounts has risen from 2,044 in 1871 to 11,925 in 1883, an increase of 9,881. A pleasing feature is that in later years the increase has been principally in the number of small accounts of 5*l.* and under. These have risen from 1,873 in the year 1871 to 7,063 in 1883, or over treble the total number of accounts open during the first year of the bank in 1871.

The largest number of small accounts of 5*l.* and under was opened this year, the number being 1,815, thus showing the class for whom the bank was principally established are appreciating and making use of it.

Of the deposits at 30th September last 20,061*l.* were invested in 3 per cent. consols, 261,566*l.* were in Canadian and Colonial securities other than those of Jamaica, 4,467*l.* were applied to the discounting of notes of employers given to meet the cost of introduction of indentured immigrants, and 39,611*l.* was the Treasury debt to the bank.

During the year 4,772 accounts were opened and 2,390 closed, and the transactions of the bank were represented by 31,379 deposits, amounting to 182,009*l.*, and 21,928 withdrawals of 179,941*l.*

No new sub-branches were opened during the year, but a considerable increase of business has taken place at several of the stations.

Further conveniences to depositors by allowing them to make investments by means of postage stamps in sums of not less than 1*s.* as well as by allowing them to withdraw their deposits by telegraphic notice were also introduced during the year.

The expenses of management and the interest credited to depositors amounted to 10,789*l.* against a revenue from investments of deposits of 12,429*l.*, leaving a difference in favour of the bank of 1,640*l.*, which is now carried to the credit of the general revenue.

Trade.

The value of the imports in each of the last 10 years has been as follows :—

	£		£
1873–74	- 1,762,817	1878–79	- 1,347,342
1874–75	- 1,759,942	1879–80	- 1,475,197
1875–76	- 1,700,254	1880–81	- 1,392,699
1876–77	- 1,552,339	1881–82	- 1,321,962
1877–78	- 1,492,722	1882–83	- 1,625,411

thus showing a satisfactory increase on each of the six preceding years, the increase on the year immediately before being no less than 303,449*l.* Of this increase, however, the amount of 103,004*l.* was the value of specie which has not been taken into account in previous years, and should therefore strictly be discarded. There has been an almost general increase among the several articles of food underrated goods, such as bacon, 172*l.*; beef, 602*l.*; bread, 654*l.*; butter, 5,383*l.*; cheese, 848*l.*; fish of different sorts, 20,707*l.*; lard, 1,144*l.*; meal, 1,419*l.*; ale, beer, and porter, 4,842*l.*; flour, 9,768*l.*; salt, 617*l.*; spirits, 879*l.*; tobacco leaf, 1,810*l.*; wood, 19,391*l.* While under ad-valorem goods there are increases under bags, 1,346*l.*; carriages, 1,152*l.*; cement, 1,401*l.*; cotton manufactures, 96,380*l.*; drugs, 3,902*l.*; fish preserved, 1,376*l.*; furniture, 2,704*l.*; groceries, 4,344*l.*; haberdashery, 2,584*l.*

In connexion with the large falling off in the importation of salt fish, it may be observed that the consumption of fresh beef in the Island is increasing considerably.

In reviewing these large increases, the Collector-General remarks that the amounts "would tend under ordinary circumstances to show a considerable amount of prosperity were it not "for the melancholy fact that the fire which ravaged the city of "Kingston in December 1882, destroyed in its course immense "quantities of all classes of goods which had already been entered and had paid customs duty," and that it may be taken or granted that the increases were to a considerable extent to replace stocks destroyed.

The following table, showing the value of the articles imported which were freed from duty in 1867, is given in continuation of similar tables in previous reports:—

—	1873-74.	1874-75.	1875-76.	1876-77.	1877-78.	1878-79.	1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Steam engines -	11,485	18,152	15,360	14,735	8,857	7,306	2,802	20,709	10,380	2,482
Mills - -	10,219	5,803	5,128	1,643	2,115	5,724	2,661	1,702	2,203	1,563
Other machinery -	5,026	11,331	2,434	11,443	3,113	3,402	3,323	5,075	3,260	5,324
Pans for boiling sugar.	2,839	3,649	1,318	2,134	2,483	2,124	6,132	1,190	809	2,025
Pipes for fluids -	1,801	1,830	1,955	3,755	2,005	1,193	1,435	1,534	2,600	3,512
Stills - -	3,986	6,848	3,153	1,619	1,880	433	696	5,217	1,777	1,489
Shooks of all sorts -	17,070	20,299	15,845	14,545	11,761	7,460	8,488	4,370	12,424	13,724
Staves - -	15,207	21,650	11,816	19,503	6,040	4,524	10,519	3,299	10,645	6,148
Wood hoops -	1,822	2,192	1,609	1,447	2,066	1,643	1,919	756	1,932	1,923
Iron, galvanized -	5,339	5,746	4,533	3,259	2,229	2,097	974	5,156	3,595	9,469
„ other manufactures.	462	—	5	—	381	—	1,344	4,964	14	433
Miscellaneous -	3,559	3,050	3,872	5,651	3,730	4,892	4,502	7,443	5,015	7,118
	78,815	100,550	67,028	79,734	46,750	40,798	64,885	61,415	54,654	55,210

The above do not call for any special remarks.

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The value of the exports in each of the last 10 years is shown below :—

—	Of Produce and Manufacture of the Colony.	Of British, Foreign, and other Colonial Produce and Manufactures.	Total.
1873–74 - -	1,369,507	72,573	1,442,080
1874–75 - -	1,359,868	50,616	1,410,484
1875–75 - -	1,440,131	76,884	1,517,015
1876–77 - -	1,419,625	39,004	1,458,669
1877–78 - -	1,165,145	35,560	1,210,705
1878–79 - -	1,262,869	94,702	1,357,571
1879–80 - -	1,427,144	85,834	1,512,978
1880–81 - -	1,104,407	74,187	1,178,594
1881–82 - -	1,471,917	77,141	1,549,058
1882–83 - -	1,365,868	103,578	1,469,446

showing a decrease in the year under report of 79,611*l.* on the year immediately preceding, but an increase of 69,895*l.* on the average of the four preceding years. The exports of sugar and rum were, however, so abnormally large in the year 1881–82, that some falling off in the succeeding year was to be expected. The articles under which the principal decreases appear are, beeswax, 2,196*l.*; cattle, neat, 3,306*l.*; cinchona bark, 2,089*l.*; horses and mules, 3,708*l.*; tobacco, cigars, and leaf, 10,928*l.*; logwood, 2,544*l.*; rum, 69,682*l.*; pimento, 10,139*l.*; sugar, 62,649*l.* While there have been material increases under cacao, 1,850*l.*; cocoanuts, 4,252*l.*; coffee, 27,082*l.*; bananas, 5,058*l.*; oranges, 3,883*l.*; ginger, 5,360*l.*; hides, 1,612*l.*; lime juice, 1,736*l.*; turtle, 1,791*l.* woods, 5,476*l.*

The values of the several articles of island produce exported bear the following per-centage proportions to the total export value of such produce.

—	1882–83.	1881–82.	1880–81.
Sugar - - -	40·	41·73	30·5
Rum - - -	16·	20·08	15·7
Coffee - - -	12·	9·07	20·9
Logwood - - -	8·	6·24	11·9
Fruit - - -	11·	8·44	4·
Pimento - - -	7·	7·66	8·
Others - - -	6·	6·78	9·

thus showing not much change on the preceding year, except in fruit.

The export of the principal staples for the last 10 years are shown in the following table :—

Exports	1873-74.	1874-75.	1875-76.	1876-77.	1877-78.
Sugar - - hhds.	28,398	27,847	29,074	30,569	26,066
Rum - - phns.	19,350	21,359	22,048	20,648	18,115
Coffee - - lbs.	10,311,427	7,136,307	8,649,049	9,532,887	9,411,662
Pimento - - lbs.	5,762,256	6,440,040	4,474,690	6,670,603	6,195,109
Dyewoods—fustic and logwood - tons	65,241	84,523	77,229	47,697	36,070
Ginger - - lbs.	1,181,789	1,490,845	1,613,764	1,097,863	908,603
Arrowroot - lbs.	1,636	21,983	21,152	3,514	4,599
Fruit, value - £	10,397	20,526	22,350	39,451	40,175

(*continued*)

Exports.	1878-79.	1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.
Sugar - - hhds.	29,151	32,117	21,056	38,392	30,783
Rum - - phns.	18,792	18,586	13,952	22,742	20,085
Coffee - - lbs.	10,832,127	10,188,897	9,846,096	7,418,638	9,448,100
Pimento - - lbs.	5,881,176	10,215,479	6,058,264	8,514,517	9,551,630
Dyewoods—fustic and logwood - tons	58,658	48,024	45,459	33,409	33,108
Ginger - - lbs.	769,636	889,847	751,494	608,384	836,889
Arrowroot - lbs.	7,982	4,480	1,888	5,116	2,515
Fruit, value - £	51,295	51,295	44,216	124,269	132,962

As has been already stated, the exports of sugar and rum were so abnormally large in the year immediately preceding that some falling off in the year now under report was to be expected, but it is satisfactory to notice that the quantity of each was in excess of the average of the four preceding years. Coffee, on the other hand, shows an increase on last year, but a decrease on the average of the four preceding years. Pimento has increased in quantity, but retrograded considerable in price. There has been a steady annual decrease in the quantity of logwood exported. The trade in fruit is still sustained with great activity, and shows an increase of 8,693*l.* in value over the past year, while it is nearly 13 times as much as the value exported in 1873–74.

The exports from the Colony during the past five years were distributed in the following proportions :—

——	1878–79.	1879–80.	1880–81.	1881–82.	1882–83.
United Kingdom -	73·26	67·3	66·5	62·5	54·46
Dominion of Canada -	1·05	5·2	6·2	12·9	16·66
United States -	15·	20·1	18·9	17·8	19.07
Other Countries -	10·69	7·4	8·4	6·8	6·81

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showing a continuation of the gradual division of the trade from the mother country to the United States and Canada, which is due to the fruit trade with the United States and to large quantities of sugar being taken by the Canadian refineries.

Agriculture.

The returns show an increase of 20,239 acres in the present year over the past year on the total acreage of land upon which the land taxes have been paid. Of this increase 2,077 acres were in cane cultivation, which may be attributed to a good crop last year and more hopeful prospects. Coffee cultivation shows an increase of 987 acres. Cacao shows 118 acres more under cultivation. Of recent years much attention has been given to this plant, and some of the best varieties have been imported from Venezuela and Trinidad for propagation here. Efforts are also being made to cure the fruit in a manner equal to that which gives cacao from Trinidad its reputation and price in the markets, and it is believed that success is not far off. Already the price of cacao grown and cured here, is said, to have improved.

Tobacco cultivation has receded in acreage, but there are plantations still carried on, which supply a large quantity for export and for island consumption in the shape of cigars. Apart from these plantations, however, there is a very considerable quantity of tobacco grown by the peasantry and consumed by themselves. The export of cigars from Jamaica was 4,741 lbs. last year and the import only 566 lbs. It is evident that the Island is now almost entirely a consumer of its own manufacture in this line.

Fruit cultivation still continues to be sustained; the export of bananas increased, and although that of oranges decreased to a small extent yet this circumstance cannot be regarded as a proof that oranges are less cultivated. As a fact, this is not so.

A new feature in exports is the large shipment of yams and other ground provisions, which follow the wake of the exodus of labourers to the Panama Canal, yam being to the negro what the potato is to the Irishman.

Police.

The police force on the 30th September 1883 consisted of 15 inspectors, 6 sub-inspectors, 121 non-commissioned officers, and 567 constables, located in detachments of less than 50 men in the several parishes of the island, except in Kingston where the strength of the detachment was 189 officers, sub-officers and men and a force of one officer, and 67 sub-officers and men at the depot for training.

The rural police, which is acknowledged to be a valuable auxiliary to the regular police, numbered 201 headmen on the 30th September 1883. These headmen are empowered to call out, when required, a certain number of rural policemen, who

receive a daily rate of pay whenever called upon to do duty; these policemen are appointed by the Custos of the parish, but have no power or authority as such except when specially called out.

The services rendered by the police during the year have been less than those required of them in previous years, a fact attributable to the diminution of crime in comparison with previous years. The statistics of crime furnish proof that crimes of violence were happily rare. Offences with and without violence had diminished, and there was a marked decrease in prædial larceny, which in years of scarcity has been so rife. Whether it be attributed to the deterrent effects of a fear of flogging or to the absence of a general scarcity of provisions, the fact remains that this crime had decreased from 3,462 apprehensions in 1880-81 (a year of scarcity) to 1,137 cases in 1881–82 and 837 cases in the year under review.

The following summary gives an epitome of the services of the police during the last five years:—

	1878–79.	1879–80.	1880–81.	1881–82.	1882–83.
Number of persons arrested on view and on information -	6,046	5,844	8,454	6,053	4,849
Number of persons apprehended on warrants - -	6,036	2,108	2,734	2,111	1,783
Number of search warrants executed - - - - -	122	108	161	108	104
Number of persons summoned -	8,995	8,719	9,145	10,648	11,253
Number of persons subpœnaed -	16,211	12,898	14,700	16,775	16,522
Number of seizures under revenue laws - - - - -	597	553	994	904	745
Number of post-mortems ordered -	410	496	596	464	457
Number of prisoners escorted -	10,161	9,769	20,541	11,680	9,912

The operations of the habitual criminals have been kept in view during the year in the usual manner. There were 1,200 habitual criminals under police surveillance during the year as against 1,353 and 1,364 in the previous years. It is believed that the attraction of high wages on the works of the Panama Canal has relieved this island of many of these men. On the other hand, however, it is probably owing to the same cause that the offence of "desertion of family" is considerably on the increase.

The enlistments and discharges in the Police Force during the year were both more numerous than in previous years, the figures being 120 and 114 respectively against 82 and 89 in the previous year and 88 and 87 in the year 1880–81.

Pensions to the amount of 144*l.* 11*s.* 9*d.* a year and gratuities to the amount of 200*l.* 16*s.* 4*d.* were granted during the year to deserving men who had to retire through incapacity for further service.

Prisons.

The number of prisoners in the general penitentiary and prisons of the Island showed a marked decrease this year as com-

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pared with the previous four years, and has been alluded to in my report under the head "police" as evidencing from a variety of causes a diminution of crime. The following are the numbers in confinement for the past five years :—

1879	-	-	-	1,054
1880	-	-	-	1,128
1881	-	-	-	1,212
1882	-	-	-	938
1883	-	-	-	811

The employment of the prisoners in the General Penitentiary consists of brick-making, lime burning, and quarrying stone, with the addition of carpenters and masons and other trades within the walls. Besides this, the strictly penal labour of the treadmill is carried out.

In the district and short-term prisons the prisoners were employed on the public and parochial roads, in breaking and carting stones, making coir, and, as a strictly penal labour, in shot drill.

The gross cost of all the prisons of the Island amounted in the year to 20,985*l.* and the gross earnings in cash 6,142*l.* But it is claimed for the prisons that a further sum of 7,722*l.* should be credited to them for earnings for which no cash had been received. The net cost of each prisoner was 15*l.* 19*s.* 10½*d.* per annum, and if the unpaid labour be taken into account 7*l.* 13*s.* 5½*d.* each. The cost appears moderate, and it must not be forgotten that salaries and repairs to buildings, &c. are taken into consideration in making the calculation.

As indicating the low sanitary condition of the criminal class it may be observed that altogether over 52 per cent. of the prisoners admitted into the general penitentiaries were in impaired health; and it is consequently not surprising to find that the death rate of the institution taken as a whole was a little over 42 per thousand. The female prison with four deaths out of 42 prisoners (daily average) gave the high death rate of 95·23 per thousand. In all these cases, however, the women were in a bad state of health when admitted. On the male side of the prison also 11 out of the 16 deaths occurred in the cases of men admitted in impaired health. The proportion of convicts admitted in impaired health to those discharged in impaired health stood in the per-centages of 52 and 19 respectively.

An improved sanitary condition of the prison has resulted from extensive demolition of old and obsolete buildings. The results will show themselves no doubt in coming years.

An improvement in the discipline of the institution has been commenced by the arrival of five trained warders from English convict prisons for service in the General Penitentiary, one of whom takes the office of deputy superintendent. The value of the services of these men is already apparent, and, with the present trained superintendent, it may with confidence be anticipated that the discipline of so important a prison will be maintained at a high standard.

Vital Statistics.

By the last census the population of this Island consisted of 580,584, and, adding the natural yearly increase since it was taken in 1881, must now be reckoned at above 600,000 souls.

The natural increase in the population continues very satisfactory year by year; indeed, in the year under review it reached the very large number of 10,735. This speaks plainly for the healthiness of the Colony and the salubrity of its climate.

The statistics of marriage still show a low rate per 1,000, viz., 4·9; but there is encouragement in the fact of its being higher than in the previous year, when it only reached 4 per 1,000.

The birth rate of the year was in the ratio of 41·5 per 1,000, a slight increase on the year before. Of illegitimate children the number bore the proportion of 60·9 in every 100 births, an increase over previous years. In the face of these figures it would be vain to speak of the moral improvement of the people, notwithstanding the earnest efforts that have been made for many years by ministers of religion, and notwithstanding the large sums that have been spent on education.

The death rate of the Colony during the year was 23·0 per 1,000; Kingston the chief city, as was to be expected, showing the highest rate, which was 34·0, the contiguous parish of St. Andrew following with 29·0 per 1,000. A very sad feature in this mortality is the number of infant deaths, which in children under one year of age amounted to 27·6 per cent. and in those under 5 years to 41·5 per cent.

This excessive mortality of infants must be in some degree attributed to a want of care and knowledge on the part of the mothers, it is also said in a measure to be chargeable to the incompetence of native midwives.

The same absence of certificate of causes of death which has been referred to in former reports under this head has continued to exist. This arises not so much from the lack of medical aid which is forthcoming more or less within reasonable distances in all parts of the Island as to the disinclination of the peasant to call in the doctor.

The "bush doctors'" services, are, however, very often had recourse to with results which it is needless to insist upon.

Of zymotic diseases, which can be checked by laws of sanitation, the statistics of the year show 22·8 per cent. as the proportion to the total deaths in the chief city of the Colony. This, of course, adds to its death rate, which is already alluded to as much higher than that of other parts of the Island.

Now that the municipality is about to commence a reconstruction of their streets and lanes we may hope for some improvement in the rate of preventable disease.

JAMAICA.

General.

The most striking occurrence of the year, so far at least as the prosperity of the chief city of the colony was affected, was a disastrous fire, which broke out on the 11th December 1882 in Kingston and laid a large area of the business portion of the city in ruins; over 570 buildings were destroyed. A calamity of so serious a character was the cause of much suffering, which was, however, relieved to some extent by the charitable in the Colony itself and abroad.

An influential deputation waited on the then Governor shortly after the fire had occurred and urged the necessity of a helping hand being held out to the owners of property who wished to rebuild, as it was urged that the insurances realised would be inadequate and the capital available within the Colony itself insufficient for the purpose. As a result of an invitation, however, to those who really stood in need of aid from Government in the direction indicated it was found that the applications could not justify the interference of Government.

The position of things to day shows that the conclusion arrived at was in the main a proper one. A proof exists in the large numbers of stores, warehouses, wharves, and houses which have already been rebuilt and from day to day are springing up anew from the ruins. As at other times and in other places, though no doubt it was a deplorable calamity, the great fire has served one useful purpose. It has at all events swept away many ruinous buildings and "rookeries," remnants of the early settlement of the town anachronisms, so to speak. In their stead buildings have in many places risen, some, in acccordance with modern ideas, of creditable architecture and less likely to be destroyed by fire. These advantages have been furthered by legislation, but a laudable desire to improve upon the past without compulsion has been conspicuous.

Political agitation has been frequent during the year in Kingston and two or three other places with the avowed object of changing the constitution of 1866 for one of a representative and elective character. It is to be hoped that the concessions which have been promised in this direction will satisfy the desires of the majority of the people, or that they will be at all events content to give a fair trial to the amendments of the constitution which have been approved by Her Majesty's Government.

The exodus of the labouring classes to the Isthmus of Panama, in connexion with the canal works, has continued during the year in an unbroken stream. In some parts of the Island there has been in consequence a dearth of labour and a rise in the price If labour. The ultimate effect on the fortunes of this Colony will, I trust, not be to the detriment of its prosperity. It may be assumed that the men who return from time to time having amassed a small capital will settle themselves on the land and will devote themselves to productive industry.

The labour question, always a difficult one here, will best be solved by a continuous immigration of East Indian Coolies. A number of Chinese have been applied for and are now being recruited by an agent in Hong Kong.

The state of the health of the Colony has, on the whole, been good.

An epidemic of measles chiefly among the juvenile population, prevailed during the year, but the death rate was small.

Crime has been happily rare and the public peace was not broken.

At the International Exhibition held at Amsterdam during the year the Island was well represented and the exhibits met with much success, 71 medals having been obtained, of which 7 were gold, 30 silver, and 34 bronze. Exhibits were also sent to the London Fisheries Exhibition with very satisfactory results, and the cordial thanks of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, the President, and of the Executive Committee, were received for the aid rendered towards the success of the undertaking.

During the year the Island was visited by a Royal Commission appointed by Her Majesty to inquire into the revenue, expenditure, debt, and liabilities, and into the cost of the various establishments of the Island. The report of the Commissioners is now receiving consideration.

H. W. NORMAN,
Governor.

King's House, Jamaica,
29th May 1884.

BRITISH HONDURAS.

No. 4.

ADMINISTRATOR FOWLER to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY.

Government House, Belize,
July 8, 1884.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Blue Book for the year 1883 and the following report on the returns comprising the Blue Book.

Taxes and Fees.

No change occurred during 1883 respecting these sources of revenue and receipts.

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Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue exceeded that of the previous year 1882 by 5,893*l.*, and the estimate for the year (1883) by 7,239*l.* This increase occurred in the Customs receipts and is attributable to a livelier trade in consequence of a favourable mahogany market. The price obtained for mahogany, the chief product of the Colony, has been gradually rising since 1881, and cutting operations were extended as much as practicable with the result that the quantity exported was nearly doubled.

The value of the wood exported was—

	£
In 1882 - - -	43,161
„ 1883 - - -	100,976

The quantity was—

In 1882 - - -	3,901,805 feet.
„ 1883 - - -	6,928,168 „

which shows the increased value of mahogany. The fruit trade also tended to favourably affect the revenue. Its value rose from 7,578*l.* in 1882 to 14,269*l.* in 1883. The increase of trade over the year 1882 is represented by a difference in the value exported—

	£
Of mahogany - -	57,815
„ fruit - - -	6,691
	64,506

Expenditure.

This was less by 4,157*l.* than the previous year, owing to the stoppage of public works in consequence of the death of the Colonial Engineer, 2,000*l.* of the votes therefore being unexpended, and to only a moiety of the military contribution of 5,000*l.* being paid during the year. The revenue for 1883 being 52,277*l.* and the expenditure 40,343*l.*, a balance of 11,934*l.* remained in favour of revenue, to which may be added the amount in the treasury at the commencement of the year, viz., 6,281*l.*, leaving a surplus at the end of 1883 of 18,215*l.*

Local Revenues and Public Debt are nil returns.

Military Expenditure.

The military question which had been the subject of considerable correspondence for some years was finally settled. The Colony is to continue to pay the annual contribution of 5,000*l.* in addition to interest at the rate of four per cent. per annum on the debt of 17,333*l.* 3*s.* 8*d.* due to the War Office, as long as the second company of troops is retained in the Colony.

The volunteer force was disbanded during the year, effecting an annual saving of about 1,000*l.*

The military outposts in the Colony are kept up from Colonial funds, but Newtown Barracks headquarters are maintained at the cost of the Imperial Government.

Public Works.

Beyond a new house for a magistrate at Punta Gorda, the expenditure of 4,083*l.* 8*s.* 2*d.* consisted of ordinary current repairs to cemeteries, roads, and public buildings.

Legislation

Comprised some amending and the usual appropriation Ordinances. Imprisonment with hard labour was substituted for penal servitude. The hours during which public offices are to be opened were regulated, and provision is made for the revision and consolidation of the laws. Of the amending Ordinances the one relating to labourers is the most important; so far it seems to meet the circumstances of the Colony, more protection is afforded the labourers than formerly, and the various Acts and Ordinances on the subject were consolidated into one enactment.

Political Franchise.

There is none.

Establishments.

Sir Robert Harley was appointed Lieutenant Governor, but was absent from the Colony during the greater portion of the year on account of ill health. General Turton, and afterwards Mr. Fowler, administered the Government during Sir Robert Harley's absence. Mr. Orgill, the Magistrate for the Toledo district, died, and various acting appointments resulted consequent on the changes in the administration of the Government and death of Mr. Orgill.

Captain Marriner, the Inspector of Police, was, unfortunately, drowned whilst crossing the Rio Hondo, and Lieutenant D. M. Allen was appointed to the vacant office.

Foreign Consuls.

Don José Meana y Martinez was appointed Vice-Consul for Spain, and J. E. Mutrie, Esq., as Consul for Honduras.

Population

Is 4·22 to the square mile, very mixed and scattered, consisting of 375 whites and 27,077 coloured. 15,811 are returned as born

BRITISH HONDURAS.

in the Colony and 6,063 in the neighbouring republics of Central America, the rest chiefly in the West Indies. The principal occupations of the population are—

Farm labourers - - -	1,055
Small planters - - -	1,985
Woodcutters - - -	1,119
Fishermen - - - -	232
Domestic servants - - -	1,068

The population has not shown much increase during the past 20 years.

In 1861	the population was	25,635
„ 1871	„	24,710
„ 1881	„	27,452

Without more people the Colony cannot be expected to make greater progress than at present, for all are employed who choose to work.

Savings Bank.

The number of depositors and amounts deposited are gradually increasing, but the transactions of the bank are not extensive. The bank has been established since 1846, and the amount deposited the first year was $3,534.00; during the past years the deposits were as follows :—

	$
1879 - - - - -	7,982.53
1880 - - - - -	4,079.73
1881 - - - - -	5,758.19
1882 - - - - -	8,329.89
1883 - - - - -	10,624.59

The depositors are :—

Trustees and minors - -	40 per cent.
Females - - -	23 „
Labourers and clerks - -	23 „
Others - - -	14 „

Coolie deposits amount to $2,493.00

The total amount deposited in the savings bank at the end of the year was $34,128.69 and the number of depositors 326. $30,000 of the above are invested in England.

Education.

The enclosed report of the Inspector of Schools states that there were 24 schools receiving Government aid during 1883. Sickness had been very prevalent and materially affected the results in most schools, but the work on the whole was very good. The difficulty in obtaining efficient teachers is very great, especially for district schools. The Council of Education, with a view of offering inducements to qualified persons to become teachers, has increased the allowance to teachers in country districts. The results of the education provided are not encouraging, for the

majority of the children, having no occasion to make use of the knowledge they have acquired after they leave school, soon forget all they have learnt, and the instances are many where scholars who have passed the second and third standard within a few years afterwards prefer making a cross to signing their name. The demand for educated persons is very limited and it is difficult to convince parents of the practical benefits of education, and the sense of order and morality which a pupil feels in school is so very different to what he experiences out of it that it is hardly surprising to find that education has little effect. There may be a slight improvement in each succeeding generation, but when one looks back on the efforts that have been made, which extend to 1816 when the first free school was established, and sees the result at the present day, it requires much courage to continue labours having so unproductive results. Much credit is due to the efforts of the several religious denominations on behalf of education to whom most of the schools belong, and the present principle of making grants to teachers according to attendances and results seems clearly the best and most practical system to adopt under the circumstances of the Colony.

Coins and Exchange.

The question of the currency of the Colony remains under consideration, and attention has been drawn to the pressing need of some small subsidiary coinage.

Imports and Exports.

Compared with previous years, show a favourable increase.

—	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
1880 - - - - -	237,204	252,577
1881 - - - - -	201,811	247,402
1882 - - - - -	232,882	250,632
1883 - - - - -	268,973	362,869

This year, it is thought, will conclude a favourable cycle; depression was reported in the years previous to the above, and the price of mahogany is now falling, as the market has become overstocked, and sugar is lower than ever before. The cry in 1820 was that the supply of mahogany was getting scarce and it was repeated in 1839, the superintendent then writing that "from the "exhaustion of mahogany, the hitherto staple commodity, the "permanent welfare of the place must mainly depend on the "rearing of colonial produce," and "to cultivate the soil and in- "crease the rural population is the only hope on which the Colony "rests."

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Yet the export has continued uninterruptedly to the extent of an average of 3,000,000 feet a year and last year, when the price of mahogany rose to nearly double, 6,928,168 feet were shipped against 3,901,805 feet in 1882, showing that the supply can meet the demand. Large size wood may be scarcer than formerly, but the Colony is a large forest and the growth of mahogany continues. It replants itself from the seeds that fall from the tree and the cutter after taking away all marketable wood from one part of the forest leaves the spot alone undisturbed for 15 or 20 years when the place is revisited to cut down the wood that has grown to the requisite size in the meantime. The increase of imports from the United Kingdom as compared with 1882 was 31,048*l.*, whereas from the United States the imports appear to have fallen off to the extent of 9,102*l.* The exports to the United Kingdom exceed those of 1882 by 43,508*l.*

This difference is entirely due to mahogany.

The fruit trade is gradually developing and agriculture is again being courted. In 1839 agriculture was relied on, and again in the sixties when extensive sugar estates were started, but the results have not so far been encouraging. The fruit trade, however, is proving suitable to the circumstances of the Colony, and there seems every prospect of a continuance of the favourable results which have been attained up to the present time. In 1880 the export of bananas appears for the first time, and the value of the new fruit productions since then has been as follows :—

——	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.
	£	£	£	£
Bananas - - -	895	1,469	2,440	7,628
Plantains - -	221	529	89	1,505
Pineapples - -	—	35	12	56

The fruit growers find their business profitable, which encourages others to try, and the area of cultivation is gradually extending. As yet, it will be perceived, the trade is very small; the total value of fruit shipped is about 10,000*l.*, from which the costs of production have to be deducted, say, 75 per cent., leaving 2,500*l.* to represent the net proceeds on the year's transactions. The trade is capable of great development, for there is plenty of suitable land to grow fruit, and the market for it is a very extensive one. From New Orleans the fruit is distributed in special cars to the Southern, Middle, and Western States of America, and from a luxury it is becoming to be regarded as a necessity. As the supply increases and cheapens so will the demand spread, and our tropical fruits will become a staple article, especially where population increases as it does in the States. It is hoped capitalists may be induced to embark largely in the cultivation of fruit, for as the present small ventures seem

so promising there is no reason to doubt the same success in larger operations. The export of logwood fell off 4,728 tons, representing a value of nearly 11,000*l.* as compared with 1882. It would be a wise measure if steps were taken to plant this valuable product in the extensive swamps of the Colony. In 1715 this plant was introduced into Jamaica, and now covers an estimated area of 200 square miles. The annual export ranges from 60,000 to 100,000 tons valued at 200,000*l.* to 300,000*l.* The export from this Colony, its natural home, only averages 15,000 tons, valued at 50,000*l.* Logwood from this Colony is of the more valuable kind, and it only requires to be planted to grow luxuriantly. Either a bonus or specific tax so levied as to encourage the planting of logwood, might stimulate its being planted in the otherwise useless swamps of the Colony. The imports and exports to neighbouring states, viz.: Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua, show an improvement on the previous year's transactions, viz.:—

—	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
1882 - - - - - -	15,670	21,338
1883 - - - - - -	46,203	70,340

This transit trade has fallen off since the change of the mail route in consequence of direct steam communication between these States and England and the United States which formerly terminated at Belize. The value used to be from 90,000*l.* to 100,000*l.*, it is now only from 50,000*l.* to 70,000*l.* The fruit trade will no doubt in time fully compensate for this loss and inasmuch as the former benefits a larger class, as the transit trade was in the hands of two or three mercantile firms, and as fruit cultivation is capable of much development, the Colony will ultimately profit by the changes that were made.

Shipping.

Steamers still continue to supersede sailing vessels, and the numbers increased in 1883 in consequence of the larger quantity of mahogany to be exported.

—	Cleared.	
	Sailing Vessels.	Steamers.
	Tons.	Tons.
1882 - - -	26,026	60,695
1883 - -	23,909	78,650

BRITISH HONDURAS.

The nationality of vessels employed in the trade is now almost entirely British since steamers have taken the place of sailing vessels, excepting the mail steamers, which are American.

Agriculture.

The cultivation of fruit products is progressing, but the difficulty of obtaining labourers retards more extended operations which are confined to small plantations under 100 acres. The supply of labour will become the chief question in future and if capitalists were willing to start fruit states, they would be prevented from want of labourers. Labourers have hitherto been obtained from the West India Colonies and the Mosquito coast, and if adequate and systematic arrangements were made doubtless all the labourers required could be procured, if not, coolies will have to be imported as is done in other Colonies. Wages has been steadily increasing during the past few years, and is now nearly, if not quite, 50 per cent. higher than in 1880. The crops are much the same, but the appointment of an Agricultural Board to import seeds and plants and to disseminate information is having a highly beneficial effect. The planters are now turning their attention to other products instead of trusting to the familiar plantain and banana. It is hoped a small botanical garden may soon be established, when planters will have the opportunity of seeing the best modes of cultivation and of obtaining fresh seeds and plants. The present process is of the most primitive character, the fertility of the soil being relied on to do all that is necessary. As regards agricultural immigrants, some more German settlers arrived in the Colony, and their settlement at Friedan is represented by 17 adults and one minor.

Inhabitants from the Bay Islands are migrating to the Colony, and a total of 101 settlers proposed taking up lands at Deep River, Silver Creek, Monkey River, and Icacos Lagoon. 1,075 acres of land have been allotted to them, some of the heads of families have arrived and they have commenced operations in anticipation of the arrival of the rest. 15 acres are allowed for each adult and 5 for each minor.

Grants of Land.

There were 92 grants for 3,332 acres of land, averaging about 36 acres per grant. The price of Crown land is only one dollar, or 4*s.* an acre, and six dollars or 24*s.* for each grant covers all expenses of survey, deed, and record; one plot of 950 acres was sold at 10*s.* 6*d.* an acre on account of the mahogany growing on it. The value of the land has no doubt risen in recent years, and choice spots that have been sold by the Crown at 4*s.* an acre have been resold as high as 20*s.* The grants include locations and leases and it is feared some of the annual numbers appear twice over as locations become converted into actual grants.

Gaols and Prisoners.

A trial before the Supreme Court in connexion with the escape of some prisoners disclosed some defects in prison discipline and

the inefficiency of the prison officers; steps were taken to remedy the defects, and the gaol is now on a sounder footing.

Criminal Statistics.

Whilst the offences have been somewhat in excess of previous years, the acquittals were unusually large. One capital sentence was carried out and there were two cases before the Courts indicating a very uncivilised state of society, otherwise the crimes were of the ordinary character.

Hospitals.

The admissions into hospitals were near the same as in 1882, but there was a good deal of sickness throughout the year, but not of a serious character. It has been noticed that during the past few years some special disease has prevailed and some fear that a succession of unhealthy seasons will culminate in an epidemic or serious sickness of some kind. The sanitary improvements recommended by Baron Siccama yet remain to be carried out.

Lunatic Asylum.

There was one more lunatic in 1883 than in 1882, and 17 comprise the total unfortunates in the asylum.

Charitable and Literary Institutions.

No changes have occurred during the year 1883.

Concluding Remarks.

The returns show a prosperous year, and all available resources were utilised to take advantage of a flourishing state of affairs; hence a more lively interest is taken, not only by the colonists themselves, but by outsiders, in the prospects of the Colony. The publication of a book by Mr. Morris, Director of the Public Gardens and Plantations, Jamaica, on "The Resources and Prospects of British Honduras," and "An Account of the Colony" by Mr. Gibbs has drawn attention to the place. Various schemes for improvement have been mooted and a route was surveyed for a railway, so that there is some hope that outside assistance may be forthcoming to help the colonists in developing the resources of the Colony, which consist of valuable timber, a rich soil, and a depôt for trading with surrounding states, besides a considerable home market.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Derby,
&c. &c.

(Signed) HENRY FOWLER,
Administrator.

BRITISH HONDURAS.

REPORT ON SCHOOLS RECEIVING GOVERNMENT AID, 1883.

There were 23 schools at work at the beginning of the year. In the course of the year two new schools were opened and one was closed, while one was closed during three months and was re-opened. There were thus 24 schools receiving aid at the close of the year.

The property in schoolrooms has much increased and is greatly improved. New schools have been built, and old ones have been extensively and thoroughly repaired.

The apparatus has generally increased in quantity, and has improved considerably in quality. A few schools are still deficient. It is no easy matter to keep up a good supply of apparatus, and teachers should see it to be their duty to look ahead and give due notice of their wants in this line, so that they may always be kept in full supply.

There was a shorter period intervening between this and the former examination, and therefore less time to work up pupils to a high state of proficiency. Smaller schools had thus a good opportunity to come well forward, some have taken advantage of this, and have, as a consequence, come higher than before, while the others who did not take advantage of it, have fallen lower. As one consequence of the shorter time for work, fewer were presented in Standard IV. than has been the case for some years past. The time was too short to bring scholars well up in Standard IV., and hence, wisely, they were kept lower. The work of the 3rd Standard was the best over the whole Colony, best in proficiency and largest in point of numbers.

Over all the Colony sickness has been very prevalent for a considerable time, and materially affected the results in most schools.

Making full allowance for these things, the work was on the whole very good.

We refer to the schools more particularly in the order in which they were examined.

1. *Northern River School,* Wesleyan.—This school was smaller than in former years but seems still to fairly represent the district. The schoolroom is very good and in excellent repair, and it is kept in good order and affords ample accommodation. The apparatus is good and quite sufficient. The organisation was fair but not very accurate, and ought to be improved. The discipline was very firm, rigidly so, but too harshly maintained. The work is done with much labour, diligence and earnestness, but wants the skilful thoroughness that secures the progress of the school as a whole.

2. *Manatee,* Wesleyan.—This is a very good schoolroom and affords large enough accommodation for the wants of the district. It is kept in excellent order, and shows signs of much interest in the place and the work. The apparatus is generally good and in good order, but it would greatly benefit the school to have a larger supply for infants, especially in the hand of the present teacher, as he uses them skilfully. The organisation is good and very accurate. The disicipline is good and firmly but kindly

maintained. The work is done steadily and skilfully, and the progress of the pupils is general and decided.

3. *Mullins River*, Wesleyan.—The schoolroom is good and sufficient but urgently in need of repair, which was promised early attention. The apparatus is fair and of good quality, but should be increased. The organisation is good but ought to be improved in accuracy. Discipline is very good, and quietly and steadily upheld. The work is done with steady and earnest labour, but would prove more efficient if done with more vigour and energy.

4. *Stann Creek*, Roman Catholic.—The schoolroom is very much improved and is now thoroughly repaired and all that could be desired. It has, however, now got quite too small for the great increase of numbers attending. The crowded room necessarily interferes with the work, and to some extent with the discipline, which on the whole is very good. The apparatus is amply sufficient and excellent in kind. The organisation is good and very skillful. The work goes on with steady and skillful earnestness, with considerable vigour and adaptation to the class of children.

5. *Stann Creek*, Wesleyan.—This is an excellent schoolroom and in every way sufficient for present wants. It is kept in order with much careful interest. The apparatus is very good, quite sufficient, and well cared for. The organisation is good and accurate. The discipline is firm and equably maintained and the teacher has improved in this respect considerably. The work is carried on with such steady application as to secure good proficiency on the average of all the standards presented.

6. *Regalia*, Wesleyan.—This is a new schoolroom, in excellent order, of sufficient accommodation, and well situated in the district. The apparatus is very good in quality and fair in quantity for the time the school has been open ; it seems to be increasing and will no doubt be quite sufficient in a short time. The organisation is very good. The discipline is excellent and skillfully and kindly maintained. The work is done with much hearty earnestness and genuine interest, but owing to the great prevalence of sickness in the district, no fair sight of the school could be got and no high attainment in results could be expected. The teacher himself was suffering at the time of the examination.

7. *Sittee River*, Wesleyan.—This also is a new schoolroom and a good one and sufficient for the district. It is, however, not so well finished in some points as we hope it will soon be. It meets a great want in the district and affords accommodation sufficient for the want. It has been in many ways unsettled for a time, and the work has therefore suffered. Sickness has been very prevalent here too, and has also injuriously affected the progress of the scholars. The apparatus is very fair for the time the school has been at work. The work is done carefully and anxiously, but, as the teacher has not much experience it is not skilfully done and would be greatly the better for much more energy.

8. *Monkey River*, Wesleyan.—The schoolroom is very good and has excellent accommodation for the place. The school is, however, increasing so that it is getting rather small. This is an

BRITISH HONDURAS.

encouraging sign. The apparatus is fair, but deficient in some departments of the work. The organisation is not very accurate but has improved on former years. The discipline is very good and very quietly and steadily maintained. The work is done with much devoted diligence, and with greatly improving skill, and the results are very creditable.

9. *Orange Walk,* Roman Catholic.—A new schoolroom has at length been put up here. It is well situated, and has sufficient accommodation for all the pupils on the roll. The apparatus is very good on the whole, though, in some parts, needing to be renewed at an early date. The organisation is very good and more accurate than on some previous occasions. The discipline has also improved somewhat in its uniform and firm character. The work is done with earnestness and diligence, but more energy in the work would certainly show higher results.

10. *Orange Walk,* Church of England.—Unfortunately on reaching this school it was found closed for the year, on account of domestic affliction in the home of the Teacher. The schoolroom is excellent and large enough to afford accommodation for a very large number. It is hoped the school will be opened early in next year under a new Teacher.

11. *San Estevan,* Roman Catholic.—This school has been open only a short time. There is very good accommodation, sufficient apparatus and good organisation. Considering the short time the school has been open the scholars had made very satisfactory progress.

12. *Corosal,* Roman Catholic.—This is an excellent schoolroom in every way, and of ample accommodation. The apparatus is excellent and in fine condition. The organisation is very good and accurate. The discipline is excellent. The work is carried on with diligence and skill and much energy, but, owing to the prevalence of sickness in the district, and changing of teachers, the progress is not so marked as otherwise it would have been.

10. *Corosal,* Wesleyan.—This is a very good schoolroom, much improved, and in excellent repair, and looked after with evident interest. The accommodation is very good and quite large enough. The organisation is excellent and accurate. The discipline is very good and very steadily and quietly upheld. The work is carried on with busy and earnest diligence and with such assistance as fully to command the position and secure very high results, notwithstanding very irregular attendance from sickness.

14. *Consejo,* Wesleyan.—This is a very good schoolroom and has very sufficient accommodation of a kind suited to the place. The apparatus is very good, quite sufficient and well cared for. The organisation is pretty good. The discipline is good and quietly maintained. The work is carried on with earnestness and diligence and with wonderful adaptation to the wants of such a mixed class of children. The scholars are not numerous and it must be difficult to keep up the work with spirit, nevertheless more energy would be beneficial.

Belize.

15. Roman Catholic Girls.—The accommodation is very good and looked after with care and interest and is quite sufficient. The apparatus is excellent and in fine condition. The organisation is very thorough and accurate and is very much improved. The discipline is excellent and maintained with uniform firmness. The infant department is very large and very carefully attended to. The work is done with hearty earnestness, diligent application, and discriminating skill, so that the progress over the whole school has been great. The results attained this year are not so high, but the prospects of higher attainments in the future are very bright.

16. Roman Catholic Boys.—The accommodation in this school whilst now very good is not sufficient for the large number of pupils. The pressure of this is not so much felt by making use of the several quiet corners round the building. The apparatus is very abundant, varied and excellent in kind. The organisation is very thorough and skilful. The discipline is very good for the large numbers, and is maintained at great cost of labour. The work is done with earnestness, industry, and close application, and the progress is very decided though by no means what it might have been had there been proper assistance. There is urgent need of more teachers in this school.

17. Wesley Boys.—This is an excellent schoolroom and affords fine accommodation for a large number of pupils. It is looked after with much attention and care. The apparatus is excellent in kind, and amply sufficient. The organisation is thoroughly and skilfully done. The discipline is excellent and maintained with much quiet firmness. The work is carried on with much earnestness, skill, and energy, and the progress of the school, on the average of all the standards, is highly satisfactory.

18. Wesley Girls.—This schoolroom is very good and in excellent order, affording comfortable accommodation for the size of the school. The apparatus is excellent in kind, in good order, and carefully attended to. The organisation is as carefully accurate and thorough as it has ever been in this school. The discipline is excellent and maintained with uniform and vigorous firmness. The work is done with skilful and energetic diligence and the progress of the pupils is creditable in a high degree to teachers and pupils. Notwithstanding the shorter time in this large school, the average mark of attainment in all the standards has been considerably raised, whilst the highest marks are not any lower than formerly.

19. *Barrack Road,* Wesleyan.— This schoolroom is very good and in splendid order and attended to with hearty interest and affording good and sufficient accommodation. The apparatus is very good and of an excellent, useful, and working kind. The organisation is skilfully and carefully accurate. The discipline is excellent and maintained with a quietness that makes no noise but effectually secures its end. The work is done with such thoroughness that the average mark of attainment has been greatly raised over the whole school.

BRITISH HONDURAS.

20. Mrs. Cato's, Private.—This schoolroom is very good and has ample accommodation. The apparatus is very much improved and we trust it will soon be quite sufficient. The organisation is managed with greater skill than formerly. The discipline is good and kept up steadily with kindly firmness. The work is done with great diligence and steady application and with considerable efficiency.

21. Mr. Fuller's, Private.—The schoolroom is now a very good and suitable one. It has very good accommodation and is kept in fair order. The apparatus is good and on the whole quite sufficient, though some parts might be increased with advantage. The organisation is carefully and anxiously arranged. The discipline is good and steadily maintained. The work is done with diligent and anxious toil and is pretty efficient in securing the general progress. The infant department in this school is very large and kindly and skilfully wrought.

22. Baptist School.—This school has been thoroughly repaired, considerably enlarged, and greatly improved in every way. It has now excellent accommodation. The apparatus is pretty good and fairly sufficient. The organisation has much improved and is now accurate and efficient. The discipline is good and kindly but not very firmly upheld. The work is done with steady and earnest toil and secures a fair measure of attainment.

23. *Boom,* Wesleyan.—This schoolroom has been well repaired throughout, and has now excellent and sufficient accommodation for the place. The apparatus is very good but not quite sufficient. The organisation is very good and very carefully attended to. The discipline is good and maintained with quiet and firm uniformity. The work is carried on with earnest and painstaking labour, and though there has been a change of teachers in the course of the year there was evidence of decided progress and a high mark of attainment.

24. *San Pedro,* Roman Catholic.—This school was closed for three months, and as there was not a duly certified teacher who could participate in the bonus it was not visited.

Extra work was presented in many schools over and above the regular work of the standards. It was gratifying to be asked to notice music, drawing, sewing and needlework. There was no mention of any evening classes this year.

The roll-books were, in every instance, kept in a clean and distinct manner, and were easily understood and examined.

All the branches in the several standards are well and efficiently taught. There is no one branch left behind in comparison with the others. The progress in all is decided and satisfactory, and it would be unfair to compare it with the progress of former years because of the short time for work this year. Making every allowance there is still much room for improvement.

The teachers are, as a body, doing their work with diligence and praiseworthy application. They meet with many discouragements and backward tendencies, yet it is hoped that an interest in

their work is spreading, and that a general sense of the importance of their work is felt by all classes of the community.

In closing this report we would bear testimony to the kindly and courteous aid given by all parties to the prosecution of our work.

(Signed) JOHN JACKSON,
Belize, 31st December, 1883. Inspector of Schools.

BRITISH GUIANA.

No. 5.

Administrator W. F. H. SMITH to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY.

Government House, Georgetown, Demerara,
MY LORD, June 25, 1884.

I HAVE the honour to transmit, for your Lordship's information, copy of the Blue Book of British Guiana for the year 1883, accompanied by the full and careful report of Mr. George Melville, the Assistant Government Secretary—under whose immediate supervision the book has been compiled—which brings to notice many interesting details.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. F. HAYNES SMITH.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Derby,
&c. &c.

REPORT on the results shown in the BLUE BOOK for 1883.

Taxes and Duties.

1. The only material alteration under this head was the reduction of the ad valorem import duty from 10*l.* to 5*l.* for every 100*l.* value. This reduction was made at the instance of the Government in the Combined Court at the Session in June 1883, and it was estimated by the Committee of Ways and Means that even with such reduction a revenue of $1,000,000 would be derived from import duties. The amount actually received from this source was $1,114,863, or 232,263*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* From this sum, however, $60,681 92 must be deducted, it having been paid as a drawback on duty paid goods exported from the Colony, reducing the available amount to $1,054,181 92, or 219,621*l.* 4*s.* 8*d.*

Revenue.

2. The Colonial revenue for the year 1883 was 478,216*l.* 8*s.* 1*d.* an increase of 19,522*l.* 0*s.* 6*d.* on the revenue of 1882. A com-

BRITISH GUIANA.

parison of the figures for the last two years shows an increase under every head of revenue, as follows:—

	Increase.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*
On import duties - - -	8,021	4	6
„ wine and spirit duties - -	129	8	2
„ beacon and tonnage dues -	69	16	10½
„ excise duty on rum - -	1,520	11	1
„ retail spirit licenses - -	1,512	1	8
„ wood-cutting licenses - -	41	10	11
„ other licenses - - -	782	13	5½
„ fees of offices - - -	159	1	4½
„ taxes fixed by law - -	14	14	4
„ miscellaneous - - -	1,337	14	4
„ fines and seizures - -	170	15	6
„ interest - - - -	3,533	9	8½
„ establishments under Government - - -	2,228	18	7
	19,522	0	6

The above increases are attributable to the healthy condition of trade which existed throughout the year.

Expenditure.

3. The total Colonial expenditure for 1883 amounted to 459,207*l.* 9*s.* 4*d.*, and was in excess of that for 1882 by 30,235*l.* 19*s.* 11½*d.*

The following are the principal items of increase or decrease:—

Immigration.—The decrease of 7,224*l.* 8*s.* 10½*d.* under this head is due to the discontinuance of immigration from Madeira, and to a decrease in the number of East Indian immigrants introduced into the Colony.

Poor.—An increase of 6,727*l.* 14*s.* 7½*d.* appears under this head, and is accounted for by the additional cost of maintaining the almshouse and the increase in the numbers of the outdoor poor receiving relief.

Education.—A decrease of 8,031*l.* 4*s.* 9*d.* has been effected by the abolition of salaries attached to certificated schoolmasters, salaries of pupil teachers, and of grants for rents and repairs.

Medical (Hospitals).—In this instance the increase of 1,862*l.* 4*s.* 2½*d.* is due to the establishment of a public hospital in Essequebo in the county of Essequebo, and of an asylum for female lepers at Gorchum.

Works and Buildings.—This item exhibits a decrease of 25,522*l.* 6*s.* 0½*d.*, which is principally due to charges being made to expenditure instead of to loan account.

Miscellaneous.—An increase of 3,816*l.* 3*s.* 5*d.* appears under this head, the principal item of which is the grant to the ship "Sheila"—3,000*l.*

West India and Panama Telegraph Company.—The increase of 2,894*l.* 15*s.* 10*d.* is due to the fact that the subsidy for 1882 is here shown, it having been paid in 1883 as well as that for the year under report.

LOCAL REVENUES.

4. *Georgetown.*—The revenue raised for municipal purposes in the city of Georgetown amounted to 41,480*l.* 3*s.* 1½*d.* as compared with 43,669*l.* 16*s.* 1½*d.* in 1882. The house-tax levied during the year was at the rate of two per cent. on the appraised value, and yielded 24,132*l.* 2*s.* 1*d.* Market fees yielded 5,278*l.* 8*s.* 7½*d.* as against 4,324*l.* in 1882; and water service 2,687*l.* 18*s.* 9*d*, being slightly less than the revenue from this source for last year.

The expenditure during the year was 42,134*l.* 17*s.* 8*d.*, a decrease of 3,807*l.* 11*s.* 4*d.* on the expenditure of 1882. The cost of labour and sanitary superintendence was 5,884*l.* 19*s.* 6½*d.*; the other large items of expenditure was 4,702*l.* 6*s.* 10½*d.* (loans repaid) and 4,803*l.* 7*s.* 11½*d.* (interest account).

5. *New Amsterdam.*—The revenue of the town of New Amsterdam amounted to 6,988*l.* 18*s.* 10½*d.* It was chiefly derived from the following sources:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Taxes on town property—1½ per centum - - -	3,766	9	1½
Market fees and rent of shops -	1,261	2	0½
Colonial grant in aid of funds -	1,041	13	4

The expenditure amounted to 7,196*l.* 2*s.* 5*d.*, and the following were the principal items:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Maintaining roads, bridges, and drainage - - -	1,886	13	0½
Waterworks establishment - -	1,008	14	4
„ loan repaid - -	1,347	18	4
Salaries of town officials - -	1,413	6	6

6. *Villages.*—The taxation of the villages under Ordinance No. 10 of 1873 amounted to 7,132*l.* 10*s.* 1*d.* Of this sum 6,029*l.* 3*s.* 5*d.* were paid during the year, leaving only 1,103*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* to be collected. Although the taxation for 1883 does not amount to the same sum as in 1882 by 1,549*l.* 14*s.* 11*d.*, yet it is worthy of attention that in this year of report nearly six sevenths of the taxes have been paid, while at the close of 1882 more than one half of the taxes was in arrear.

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The expenditure under Ordinance 4 of 1883, amounting to 9,387*l.* 4*s.* 8*d.*, was as follows:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Drainage - - -	4,030	16	6½
Roads, dams, and bridges -	3,155	13	0
Salaries, contingencies, and other expenses - - -	1,456	15	7½
Government loan repaid - -	743	19	6
	9,387	4	8

Compared with the expenditure of 1882 there was an increase of 2,320*l.* 0*s.* 10½*d.*

The liabilities of the villages under Ordinance 10 of 1873 on 31st December were as follows:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Due on Government loan - -	19,413	16	1½
„ other debts - -	19	3	4
	19,432	19	5½

thus showing a decrease in the liabilities as compared with 1882 of 3,046*l.* 8*s.* 6½*d.*

The statement under Ordinance 10 of 1873 will continue to be shown until the debt to Government has been repaid, which will be effected by receipts for new empolders.

PUBLIC DEBT.

7. The public debt of the Colony, for which the general revenue is directly pledged was, on the 31st December 1883, 64,900*l.* as compared with 58,794*l.* in 1882. This apparent increase of 6,106*l.* is due to the appropriation of the balance of sinking funds not required for the redemption of loans of 1879, as the bonds for these have been consolidated and extended under resolution No. 1 of the Combined Court, session 1883–1884.

The loans guaranteed by the general revenue exhibit a decrease of 60,731*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* They are as follows:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
For immigration - - - -	171,500	0	0
To the city of Georgetown - -	31,347	10	0
To the town of New Amsterdam - -	3,611	2	2½
Total guaranteed loans - -	206,458	12	2½
Amount for which the general revenue is directly pledged - - - -	64,900	0	0
Grand total 1883 - - -	271,358	12	2½
„ 1882 - - -	325,984	5	6½
Decrease in 1883 - -	54,625	13	4

MILITARY EXPENDITURE.

8. The disbursements of the Colonial Government in connexion with the Georgetown militia, the volunteer force, and the Imperial troops in garrison amounted to 2,867*l.* 19*s.* 5½*d.* The Imperial expenditure was 11,848*l.* 9*s.* 7*d.* The total military expenditure was therefore 14,716*l.* 9*s.* 0½*d.* and was 2,323*l.* 2*s.* 10½*d.* less than in 1882.

PUBLIC WORKS.

9. The provision made for public works during the year was to the extent of 147,555*l.* 15*s.* 4*d.*, but of this only a sum of 68,515*l.* 12*s.* 11½*d.* was expended as against 73,336*l.* 5*s.* 1½*d.* in 1882.

The principal items of expenditure were :—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Government House—			
Purchase of lots adjoining -	5,872	0	0
Sea Defences— - - -			
Maintenance of sea wall and dam	3,679	0	0
Public works department—			
Supernumerary staff - -	2,667	0	0
Hospital—			
Berbice public - - -	6,021	0	0
New law courts—			
Construction of - - -	4,543	0	0

LEGISLATION.

10. Fifteen Ordinances were passed during the year, of which the following are noteworthy :—

No. II.—To repeal Ordinance No. 13 of 1877, entituled "An "Ordinance to amend the Laws relating to the registration of "births and deaths and for other purposes and to make provision "in lieu thereof." Under the provisions of this Law the name of the putative father of an illegitimate child cannot be entered in the register of births except at the joint request of such father and of the mother. Its principal features are, however, the requirements for the registration of still-born children and the regulations under which the bodies may be buried.

No. III.—"To amend the Law relating to sworn weighers "and gaugers." This Law requires that each applicant shall pass an examination before a duly qualified board of examiners, thus ensuring that a more certain knowledge of the duties pertaining to the calling of a weigher and gauger is possessed by persons obtaining licenses than heretofore.

No. IV.—"To amend the Law relating to villages." This Act abolishes the Central Board of Villages and also village councils and vests the control of village matters mainly in the hands of the Colonial civil engineer and the central board of health.

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No. VI.—"To secure the maintenance of the sea, river, and outer dams of estates."

No. VIII.—"To abolish public flogging." The use of the cat-o'-nine tails, except for flagrant breaches of prison rules, was rarely resorted to; brutal cutting or stabbing and the theft and wilful destruction of growing provisions being the only offences for which it was inflicted. For these offences it was sometimes ordered that the punishment should be inflicted at the place where the offence had been committed, but the moral effect of this public chastisement was thought to lower humanity and to do more harm than good.

No. IX.—"To amend the Onderneeming School Ordinance, 1879." This Act extends the maximum age at which lads may remain at Onderneeming from 16 years to 18 years, and it is hoped that by detaining boys at this institution up to the age of 18 they will have had inculcated in them principles of honesty and industry such as may bear good fruit, and that they being no longer children will be able to retain the lessons of good behaviour which they have been taught there.

No. X.—"To determine and secure the salaries attached to the "offices of Chief Justice and of Puisne Judges of British Guiana." This Ordinance is the outcome of a resolution of the Combined Court, and makes the salaries of the judges permanent and renders them entirely free and independent of the Combined Court. The salaries of the judges under Ordinance 8 of 1882 are secured to them up to and until 31st December 1889, and this Ordinance does not virtually come into operation until the 1st January, 1890.

No. XI.—"To make provision for the incorporation of certain "friendly and other societies, and for securing the proper manage-"ment thereof." Numerous applications for incorporation under the provisions of this Ordinance were received from the date of its publication to the close of the year, and there is good reason for supposing that many other societies will avail themselves of the benefits of this Law.

No. XII.—"To make provision for due investigation into the "causes of shipping casualties." This Act was passed to provide for the due investigation into the causes and circumstances attending wrecks or other casualties affecting shipping by the constitution of a Court of Inquiry as required by the Merchants' Shipping Act of the Imperial Parliament.

No. XIII.—"For enabling the Governor and Court of Policy of "the Colony of British Guiana with the financial representatives of "the inhabitants of the said Colony in Combined Court assembled, "and the Committee of Ways and Means to procure and take "evidence on oath." This enactment arose out of a resolution of the Combined Court in connexion with the fixing of a permanent tariff of import duties; and under the provisions of this Ordinance 15 of the leading merchants of Georgetown were examined on oath by the Committee of Ways and Means during the 1883–4 session.

No. XIV.—"To consolidate and amend the Law establishing a Police Force in British Guiana."

No. XV.—"For the more effectual prevention of crime." The enactments of this Ordinance are principally made to amend the Penal Servitude Ordinance, 1865; to facilitate the identification of criminals; for the punishment of certain special offences; and for the amendment of the Criminal Law in certain cases.

Political Franchise.

11. The county franchise is determined by the possession of three acres of land under cultivation, or of house property of 20*l.* annual rental; by the occupancy for three years of six acres of land under cultivation, or for one year of house property of 40*l.* annual rental; or by an income of 125*l.*

The town franchise is determined by the possession of house property of the value of 104*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.*, or occupancy of the same at an annual rental of 25*l.*; or by an income of 125*l.*

The number of registered electors on 31st December was 1,210, showing an increase of 69 over the number registered in 1882 and of 109 over the number in 1881.

Councils and Assemblies.

12. *Court of Policy.*—Mr. Arthur Braud retired at the close of the annual session of the Combined Court and was re-elected. Mr. Thomas Mulligan resigned in consequence of his departure from the Colony, and was succeeded by Mr. W. Yates Perot.

13. *Combined Court.*—Mr. Alexander Barr and Mr. William Henry Sherlock resigned in consequence of their departure from the Colony, and were succeeded by Mr. William Craigen, and Mr. Alexander R. Gilzean. Mr. Isidore Henry De Jonge was re-elected on the expiration of his term of service.

Civil Establishment.

14. *Deaths.*—There were 14 deaths amongst public officers holding appointments in the Colony, viz.:—

Mr. W. Vaughan, Clerk, Registrar-General's Office, aged 69.
Mr. R. W. H. Bolton, Inspector of Police, aged 44.
Mr. J. T. Egg, Assistant Sworn Clerk, aged 43.
Mr. H. C. Huggins, Stipendiary Magistrate and Sheriff of Essequebo, aged 64.
Mr. R. Cook, Clerk, General Post Office, aged 32.
Mr. J. R. Garraway, Aidwaiter Customs Department, aged 44.
Mr. J. Bratt, Superintendent Orphan Asylum, aged 47.
Mr. H. Hunter, District Medical Officer, aged 28.
Mr. H. A. Firth, Emigration Agent at Calcutta, aged 49.

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Mr. E. Demby, Dispenser, Berbice Hospital, aged 47.
Mr. W. Grant, Assistant Master, Queen's College, aged 29.
Mr. G. A. Lamb, Senior Inspector of Police, aged 31.
Mr. E. M. Pearless, Assistant Resident Surgeon, Colonial Hospital, aged 25.
Mr. J. Barnhill, Minister of St. Catherine's parish, aged 56.

Showing an increase of 2 deaths over 1882, and giving an average age of 43½ years to those deceased.

15. *Appointments, Promotions, and Leaves of Absence.*—The principal changes in the public service during the year were as follows:—

On the 5th September the Honourable W. A. G. Young, C.M.G., Lieut.-Governor and Government Secretary, went on leave and the Hon. F. J. Villiers, C.M.G., Auditor-General, was appointed to act as Government Secretary, and Mr. C. B. Hamilton, Colonial Bookkeeper, to act as Auditor-General.

On the 5th January Mr. N. D. Davis, Comptroller of Customs, went on leave of absence, and his place was filled by Mr. T. Hubbard, 1st Clerk Customs Department.

The Chief Commissary of Taxation, Mr. W. S. Turner, was absent on leave from 6th June to end of year, Mr. Fitzgerald, Stipendiary Magistrate, performing the duties.

The Crown Surveyor was absent during the whole year, and Mr. W. Chalmers acted in that office.

Mr. R. W. S. Mitchell was transferred from the office of Immigration Agent General in British Guiana to the office of Emigration Agent for British Guiana at Calcutta, that post having become vacant by the death of Mr. H. A. Firth.

The Medical Officer of the Immigration Department was absent from 1st January to 24th December, Dr. Anderson acting in that office.

Captain Fortescue, Inspector of Prisons, was on the 9th April appointed Managing Director of the Orphan Asylum.

The Surgeon-General was absent from the Colony throughout the year. Dr. Cameron acted.

On the 23rd April Mr. J. T. Goldney was appointed to be a Puisne judge in the room of Mr. Fleming, transferred to Ceylon.

Mr. J. H. King, Senior Puisne Judge, was on leave from the 25th September, Mr. Atkinson, Solicitor-General, filling the vacant place on the Bench.

The Registrar of the Colony was on leave from 5th April to 5th October. Mr. Olton acted.

Mr. Hawtayne was absent from the office of Administrator General from 26th March to the close of the year; Mr. Schurer acting in that office.

Mr. J. E. Hewick was appointed on the 3rd April a stipendiary magistrate.

The Ven. Archdeacon Wyatt, Vicar General, was absent on leave from 1st January to 22nd November.

The Ven. Archdeacon Austin was absent from 1st January to 22nd November.

SECURITY.

16. One hundred and fifteen officers in positions of trust gave security during the year, and the sums for which they were liable varied from 52*l.* to 6,250*l.* Of these 90 officers gave security in the Public Officers' Guarantee Fund. The remaining officers had, prior to the establishment of the fund, executed the usual security bonds for the sums for which they were answerable.

PENSIONS.

17. The Pension List of 1883 contains the names of 38 pensioners, and amounts to 7,706*l.* 16*s.*, showing a decrease of 123*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* on that of 1881.

PUBLIC OFFICERS' WIDOWS AND ORPHANS' FUND.

18. The receipts of the fund—derived from abatements of 4 per cent. from salaries of 100*l.* and upwards of all public officers and from interest on moneys invested—amounted to 5,476*l.* 18*s.* 4½*d.* as against 8,115*l.* in 1882. There were 87 pensioners on the books of the fund on the 31st December, 1883, as against 75 at the close of the preceding year, and the pensions paid during the year amounted in the aggregate to 7,048*l.* 19*s.* 0½*d.*, showing an increase over 1882 of 1,666*l.* 19*s.* 0½*d.* The credit balance of the fund was, on 31st December 1883, 54,829*l.* 4*s.* 3*d.* as against 52,323*l.* in 1882, an increase of 2,506*l.* 4*s.* 3*d.*

POPULATION.

19. The estimated population of the Colony on 31st December 1882 was 257,940. The natural increase during 1883, as represented by the excess of births over deaths, was 305, and the increase by excess of immigration over emigration amounted to 1,766. Attention is directed to the following tabulated statement showing accurately the estimated population for each decade and exhibiting an estimated population of 260,011 on the 31st December 1883.

STATEMENT showing the ESTIMATE of the POPULATION at the end of each Year since the Census 1881, classified under Racees and Sexes, and showing the Yearly Birth and Death Rate for each Race, also the General Yearly Rates for the whole Colony, also the Rate for each Sex.

	Races.						Totals.			Annual Rates per Thousand Births and Deaths on the Estimated Population of the various Races and whole Colony.			
	Europeans and Natives of British Guiana and West India Islands.	Aborigines.	East Indians.	Chinese.	Portuguese.	Africans.	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Races.	Rate.	Death Rate.	
1881 Population as per Census 1881	142,312	7,708	79,929	5,234	11,926	5,077	140,192	111,994	252,186	1881.			
Immigrants arriving during 1881	246	—	3,983	16	221	—	3,118	1,348	4,466	Natives of British Guiana.	36·61	30·35	
Totals of foregoing	142,558	7,708	83,912	5,250	12,147	5,077	143,310	113,342	256,652	Aborigines	37·25	30·80	
Births during 1881	5,253	289	1,914	62	441	185	4,128	4,016	8,144	East Indians	23·43	31·68	
Totals	147,811	7,997	85,826	5,312	12,588	5,262	147,438	117,358	264,796	Chinese	13·13	35·60	General Death Rates each Sex.
Immigrants leaving during 1881	—	—	1,559	425	—	—	1,362	622	1 984	Portuguese	36·55	43·43	Males 33·55
Remaining	147,811	7,997	84,267	4,887	12,588	5,262	146,076	116,736	262,812	Africans	36·69	43·84	Females 29·56
Deaths during 1881	4,355	239	2,588	168	524	221	4,743	3,352	8,095	Whole Colony	31·97	31·78	
Estimated Population 31st Dec. 1881	143,456	7,758	81,679	4,719	12,064	5,041	141,333	113,384	254,717	Males	16·20	18·62	
										Females	15·76	13·15	
										Increase 2,531			

Statement showing the Estimate of the Population at the end of each Year since the Census 1881, &c.—*continued.*

——	Races.						Totals.			Annual Rates per Thousand Births and Deaths on the Estimated Population of the various Races and whole Colony.			——
	Europeans and Natives of British Guiana and West India Islands.	Aborigines.	East Indians.	Chinese.	Portuguese.	Africans.	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Races.	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.	
1882 Immigrants arriving during 1882	784	—	3,206	10	—	—	2,871	1,129	4,000				
Totals of foregoing -	144,240	7,758	84,885	4,729	12,064	5,041	144,204	114,513	258,717	1882.			
Births during 1882 -	5,996	240	2,374	49	380	66	4,579	4,526	9,105	Natives of British Guiana.	41·22	32·92	
Totals - - -	150,236	7,998	87,259	4,778	12,444	5,107	148,783	119,039	267,822	Aborgines - -	30·93	31·06	
										East Indians - -	28·44	31·49	
										Chinese - -	11·18	32·17	General Death Rates each Sex.
										Portuguese - -	31·62	35·61	Males - 34·28
										Africans - -	13·51	45·87	Females - 30·87
Immigrants leaving during 1882	—	—	1,176	255	—	—	973	458	1,431				
Remaining - -	150,236	7,998	86,083	4,523	12,444	5,107	147,810	118,581	266,391	Whole Colony -	35·29	32·76	
										Males - - -	17·75	18·99	
										Females - -	17·54	13·77	
Deaths during 1882 -	4,789	241	2,628	141	428	224	4,899	3,552	8,451				
Estimated Population 31st Dec. 1882 -	145,447	7,757	83,455	4,382	12,016	4,883	142,911	115,029	257,940	Increase - 3,223			

Statement showing the Estimate of the Population at the end of each Year since the Census 1881, &c.—*continued.*

		Races.						Totals.			Annual Rates per Thousand Births and Deaths on the Estimated Population of the various Races and whole Colony.			
		Europeans and Natives of British Guiana and West India Islands.	Aborigines.	East Indians.	Chinese.	Portuguese.	Africans.	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Races.	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.	
1883	Immigrants arriving during 1883	1,021	—	2,537	20	—	—	2,560	1,018	3,578	1883.			
	Totals of foregoing -	146,468	7,757	85,992	4,402	12,016	4,883	145,471	116,047	261,518	Natives of British Guiana.	35·91	28·23	
	Births during 1883 - -	5,301	248	2,124	42	387	70	4,159	4,013	8,172	Aborigines - -	32·36	44·76	
	Totals - - -	151,769	8,005	88,116	4,444	12,403	4,953	149,630	120,060	269,690	East Indians - -	25·27	29·80	
											Chinese - -	10·42	41·22	General Death Rates each Sex.
											Portuguese - -	32·36	37·21	Males - 32·60
	Immigrants leaving during 1883	—	—	1,561	251	—	—	1,256	556	1,812	Africans - -	14·85	51·14	Females - 27·35
	Remaining - -	151,769	8,005	86,555	4,193	12,403	4,953	148,374	119,504	267,878	Whole Colony -	31·42	30·25	
											Males - - -	15·99	18·01	
											Females - -	15·43	12·23	
	Deaths during 1883 -	4,167	343	2,505	166	445	241	4,685	3,182	7,867				
Estimated Population, 31st Dec. 1883 -		147,602	7,662	84,050	4,027	11,958	4,712	143,689	116,322	260,011	Increase - 2,071			

Miscellaneous Returns.

20. *Savings Banks.*—From the report of the Colonial Receiver General on the savings banks for 1883, it will be seen that on the 31st December 1882 there were 12,207 depositors in the Government savings banks, with deposits amounting in the aggregate to 228,770*l.* 9*s.* 6½*d.*; that on the 31st December 1883 there were 13,391 depositors with deposits amounting in the aggregate to 251,621*l.* 9*s.* 10½*d.*, thus showing an increase in the number of depositors of 1,184, and in the deposits of 22,851*l.* 0*s.* 4*d.*:—

		£	*s.*	*d.*
Of the depositors 6,274 were East Indians with deposits amounting to		125,243	7	0
43 were Chinese with deposits amounting to		1,089	9	1½
679 were Portuguese with deposits amounting to		34,253	1	7½
6,395 were Europeans, creoles, and others with deposits amounting to		91,035	12	1½
13,391		251,621	9	10½

The deposits of the East Indian immigrants give an average of 19*l.* 19*s.* 3*d.*, those of the Chinese 25*l.* 5*s.* 9*d.*, those of the Portuguese 50*l.* 8*s.* 11*d.*, and those of the Europeans, creoles, and others, 13*l.* 16*s.* 9*d.*, per depositor.

21. *Paupers.*—The number of persons who received poor law relief during the year was 2,592 as against 2,630 in the previous year, a decrease of 38.

22. *Immigration.*—The number of immigrants introduced during the year was 3,518, equivalent to 3,242½ statute adults, viz.:—

From Calcutta	2,497	2,302½
„ Barbadoes	1,021	940
	3,518	3,242½

Referring to the tabulated statement on population, pp. 10–12, it will be observed that the total number of immigrants who arrived in the Colony are there shown to be 3,578, an increase on the above figures of 60 souls. This increase is accounted for as follows:—East Indian immigrants from places other than Calcutta 40, and Chinese 20=60. The average cost of each statute adult Indian immigrant was 17*l.* 16*s.* 6½*d.* during the season 1882–83,

BRITISH GUIANA.

as compared with 18*l.* 11*s.* 7*d.* in the previous season, and 16*l.* 19*s.* 6*d.* in the season 1880–81.

The cost of the immigrants introduced from Barbados was 1,553*l.* 17*s.* 3*d.*, or an average of 1*l.* 13*s.* 0½*d.* per statute adult, as compared with 1*l.* 14*s.* 10½*d.*, the cost in 1882, and 3*l.* 13*s.* 6½*d.* in 1881.

23. *Return Immigrants.*—The number of immigrants who returned to India during the year was 1,495 souls or 1,359 statute adults, being, as compared with the number returned in 1882, an increase of 358 adults. The sums deposited with the Government by these immigrants for remittance to India amounted in the aggregate to 31,871*l.* and the value of the jewellery carried away by them is estimated at 6,428*l.* 14*s.* 2*d.*, giving an average savings of about 23*l.* 9*s.* per adult immigrant. Besides the number of East Indian immigrants who left the Colony as above, there were 66 who left for places other than India, and 251 Chinese who emigrated from the Colony to places unknown = 317. Thus making the grand total of immigrants who left the Colony—1,812.

EDUCATION.

24. *Queen's College.*—The number of students in this institution on 31st December 1883 was 109. Out of the 18 students who entered as candidates for the Cambridge Local Examination, eight were successful. There were also two candidates for this examination who were not students of Queen's College, of these one passed.

25. *Guiana Scholarship.*—The second public competitive examination of candidates for the "Guiana" scholarship was held in 1883, and resulted in the award of one of the scholarships to a senior student of Queen's College.

26. *Elementary Schools.*—Government aid was granted to 173 schools, viz.:—

Primary schools - - -	154
Infant schools - - -	11
Mission schools - - -	8
	173

Aid was withdrawn from three schools, and five were closed by their managers. Five new schools were added to the list of State-aided schools by the Governor and Court of Policy.

One hundred and seventy-three schools were inspected, of these 66 failed, but were retained on the list, and provisional grants were subsequently made to them. There were on the registers 18,747 children, whose average attendance during the year was 10,671. The number present at inspection was 14,190, of whom 8,754 were examined and 5,521 passed in three subjects.

27. *School for Vagrant and Youthful Offenders.*—There were 117 boys in the school on 31st December, as compared with 121 in the preceding year. The cost of the institution, including salaries of superintendent and subordinate staff, was 2,615*l.* 1*s.* 2*d.* If from that amount be deducted the total receipts from provisions sold or supplied to other institutions, &c., &c., viz., 831*l.*, 6*s.* 9½*d.*, it will be seen that the actual cost of the institution was 1,783*l.* 6*s.* 0½*d.*, or 14*l.* 17*s.* 2½*d.* per inmate, exclusive of the value of labour expended for the benefit of the institution, which is estimated at 233*l.* 12*s.* 4*d.*

Three deaths occurred in the institution during the year, brain fever being the cause of death in each case, and the health of the inmates was on the whole satisfactory.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

28. *Imports.* — The imports of 1883 were valued at 2,224,716*l.* 17*s.*, 11½*d.*, showing an increase of 125,084*l.* 2*s.* 11½*d.* as compared with the imports of the preceding year, and of 440,572*l.* 5*s.* 6½*d.* as compared with 1881.

29. *Exports.*—The value of the exports was 3,172,011*l.* 15*s.* 5*d.*, equal to 12*l.* 4*s.* per head of the estimated population. As compared with the exports of the preceding year there was a decrease of 36,637*l.* 8*s.* 8½*d.*

The decrease is mainly due to the falling off in the exportation of rum, timber, and Balata gum.

The following is a comparative statement of the value of exports in the years 1882 and 1883 :—

Comparative Statement of the Value of Exports in the years 1882 *and* 1883, *showing the Increase or Decrease in* 1883 *in each description of Export.*

Articles.	Value.		Decrease in 1883.	Increase in 1883.
	1882.	1883.		
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Coffee	32 6 6	146 13 0	107 6 6	—
Cocoanuts	1,764 18 3	1,289 14 9	—	475 3 6
Charcoal	5,360 5 0	5,780 8 6	420 3 6	—
Corn and pulse	120 4 2	123 6 8	3 2 6	—
Cattle and live stock	1,465 6 8	4,135 15 4	2,670 8 8	—
Firewood	210 14 7	117 13 4	—	93 1 3
Glue, fish	1,791 3 10	1,844 14 6	53 10 8	—
Gum, Balata	5,813 16 0½	4,156 8 10½	—	1,657 7 2
„ other	2,744 6 2	3,288 18 9	544 12 7	—
Hides and horns	2,862 5 7	3,523 1 1	660 15 6	—
Molasses	71,333 6 8	101,070 0 0	29,736 13 4	—
Rum	298,171 16 2	264,901 13 4	—	33,270 2 10
Shingles	3,127 16 10½	3,326 1 0½	198 4 2	—
Sugar	2,585,457 0 7½	2,591,906 13 4	6,449 12 8½	—
Timber	33,526 11 3	13,696 13 3	—	19,829 18 0

Articles.	Value. 1882.	Value. 1883.	Increase in 1883.	Decrease in 1883.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Machinery - -	650 0 0	—	—	650 0 0
Bullion, gold - -	187 10 0	—	—	187 10 0
Miscellaneous - -	3,279 15 0	3,364 18 7	85 3 7	—
Total colonial produce	3,017,906 3 4½	3,002,672 14 4	40,929 13 8½	56,163 2 9
Total foreign produce -	190,743 0 9	169,339 1 1	—	21,403 19 8
Total exports - -	3,208,649 4 1½	3,172,011 15 5	—	—
Net decrease, colonial produce - -	—	15,233 9 0	—	—
Net decrease, foreign produce - - -	—	21,403 19 8	—	—
	3,208,649 4 1½	3,208,649 4 1	—	77,567 2 5

30. The following statement shows in round numbers the value and direction of the trade of the Colony :—

Countries.	Imports from.	Exports to.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
United Kingdom - - -	1,265,876 7 11	1,589,982 3 4
United States - - -	422,254 5 10	1,212,672 4 10
British North America - -	177,372 19 0	96,510 0 9
British West Indies - -	52,178 8 1½	77,206 16 4½
Foreign West Indies - -	14,393 8 10½	121,478 5 0
Dutch Guiana - - -	39,318 1 5½	58,110 4 1½
Other foreign countries - -	79,777 4 7	19,972 19 4
Other British Colonies - -	173,545 12 2	6,079 1 1
Total - - -	2,224,716 7 11½	3,182,011 14 10

SHIPPING.

31. The number of vessels entered and cleared at the two ports of the Colony, Georgetown, and New Amsterdam during the year was as follows :—

—	Ports.	Entered. No.	Entered. Tonnage.	Cleared. No.	Cleared. Tonnage.
Steam vessels.	Georgetown - - -	123	109,621	117	105,520
	New Amsterdam - - -	—	—	7	4,898
	Total - - -	123	109,621	124	110,418
Sailing vessels.	Georgetown - - -	912	201,808	936	208,052
	New Amsterdam - - -	28	5,997	30	5,987
	Total - - -	940	207,805	966	214,039
	Total Steam and Sailing Vessels -	1,063	317,426	1,090	324,457

It will be seen from the table given below that although there was an increase of 11 steamers with a tonnage of 16,713 entered during the year there was a very considerable decrease in the number of sailing vessels entered inwards amounting to 91 with a tonnage of 29,297. So that on the whole entries for the year there was a net decrease of 80 vessels with an average tonnage of $157\frac{24}{80}$ per vessel. The clearances exhibit an increase of steamers cleared amounting to eight in number of an average tonnage of $1,841\frac{7}{8}$, but here again there is a decrease in the number of sailing vessels amounting to 20 vessels with an average tonnage of $343\frac{8}{26}$ per vessel. The whole clearances, therefore, show a decrease of 18 vessels cleared, but an increase in their tonnage of 5,809.

—	Vessels.	1882.		1883.	
		No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
Entered.	Steam Vessels - -	112	92,908	123	109,621
	Sailing Vessels - -	1,031	237,102	940	207,805
	Total - -	1,143	330,010	1,063	317,426
Cleared.	Steam Vessels - -	116	95,683	124	110,418
	Sailing Vessels - -	992	222,965	966	214,039
	Total - -	1,108	318,648	1,090	324,457

AGRICULTURE.

32. *Cultivated lands.*—The following are the principal heads of cultivation :—canes, cocoanuts, plaintains, coffee, cocoa, and rice.

The total area of land in cultivation and occupied by sugar estates, as per acreage returns of 30th June 1883, was 81,835 acres, of which 79,037 acres were in canes, or a decrease of 226 acres as compared with 1882, and the remaining 2,798 acres in plaintains, showing an increase of 372 acres. The sugar cane is still being cultivated in several villages, and a ready sale is obtained for the canes so produced at remunerative prices, and it is estimated that the total area now under cultivation by the village farmers yielded a larger number of hogsheads of sugar than in 1882. The canes are purchased from the growers and are ground on the sugar estates on the usine system, payment being made per ton according to the amount of sugar obtained, as indicated by polarisation of the juice.

The exports of sugar, rum, and molasses, the products of the sugar cane of the Colony, were as follows :—

—	Quantity.	Value.
Sugar, hogsheads - - - -	129,595	2,591,906
Rum, puncheons - - - -	26,490	264,901
Molasses, casks - - - -	20,214	101,070
	—	2,957,877

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There are no statistics of the entire area of land in cultivation throughout the Colony, the acreage returns having reference only to sugar estates.

Cocoanuts are cultivated chiefly in the Mahaicony district. The exports during the year were 515,896 cocoanuts, valued at 1,289*l.* 14*s.* 9*d.*

Coffee.—This article is largely consumed in the Colony, almost every household from the highest to the lowest using it. Half a century ago it was a considerable factor in the exports from the Colony; in 1832, 164 tons 12 cwts. 2 quarters and 11 lbs. were exported; of latter years the growth of coffee has gradually dwindled down until the quantity produced was quite inadequate to the demand in the Colony, so that in 1882 no less a quantity than 274,186 lbs. of imported coffee was entered for home consumption here. In the year of report, however, a considerable change is apparent, for only 81,118 lbs. of coffee were imported; and of these 34,319 lbs. were exported, leaving 46,599 lbs. to come into consumption, or 227,587 less than in 1882, and the increase in the exportation of coffee grown here was 2,188 lbs., the figures being—exports: 1882, 1,591; 1883, 3,779. The cultivation of this product would seem, therefore, to be commencing once more to command attention.

Cocoa, though indigenous to the Colony, has never formed an important article of export. The high prices for this product recently prevailing has now given an impetus to its cultivation, and cocoa plants have been put in on some estates in the vicinity of Georgetown. It is estimated that there are about 597 acres in young plants in the No. 1 canal district.

Rice.—Many parts of the Colony are peculiarly suited to the production of rice, and the attempts that have heretofore been made in this direction have only failed because of the inadequacy of the labour supply of the Colony. In recent years rice has, however, been increasingly cultivated by East Indian immigrants who have served out their terms of indenture on the sugar estates.

33. *Uncultivated Lands.*—There were 143,994 acres of empoldered but uncultivated lands in the occupation of sugar estates, or a decrease of 312 acres. Until the boundaries of the Colony are defined, the total area of uncultivated lands cannot be even approximately ascertained.

34. *Rate of Wages.*—The wages of labourers on the sugar estates vary from 1*s.* per diem paid to weeders to 3*s.* 4*d.* per diem paid to cane cutters. The immigrants on the estates are provided with dwellings and hospital accommodation, and industrious labourers are able to amass considerable sums of money, as is testified by their deposits in the Government Savings' bank and by their remittances to India.

35. *Improvements in Agriculture and Manufacture.*—Considerable improvement has been made in recent years in the drainage and irrigation of land under cultivation on sugar estates, and also in the manufacture of sugar. The tendency

amongst sugar planters is to establish central factories for the crops of as many even as four sugar estates, and from 2,500 to 6,500 hhds. are now the output of such factories. A movement is on foot for the erection of small sugar mills in certain villages to be driven by both wind power and steam.

The value of the machinery imported into the Colony during the years 1881, 1882, and 1883 was as follows:—

	£
1881 - - - - -	50,472
1882 - - - - -	155,989
1883 - - - - -	147,486

GRANTS OF LAND.

36. Thirteen licenses of occupancy and 35 woodcutting licenses were issued during the year for an area of 9,629 acres, a decrease of 3,479 acres as compared with the area granted in 1882. Fifteen of the licenses were for grants of 100 acres and under, 23 for tracts of above 100 acres and not exceeding 300 acres, and seven for tracts of more than 300 acres each.

There was a decrease of 10 woodcutting licenses, as compared with the number issued in 1882. The timber exported amounted to only 206,833 cubic feet, showing a decrease as compared with 1882 of 329,590 cubic feet, which represents a value of 19,829*l.* 18*s.* There was a slight increase in the price in 1883, which is attributable to the larger demand for greenheart of superior size and quality.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

37. *Police Reports.*—The number of offences reported to the police or to the magistrates was 13,966, a decrease of 961 compared with the number reported in 1882.

38. *Apprehensions and Summonses.*—The manner in which the cases brought before the magistrates' courts in 1882 and 1883, were disposed of was as follows:—

——	1882.	1883.
	£	£
Convicted - - - - -	13,694	12,260
Discharged - - - -	10,796	11,073
Acquitted - - - - -	4,806	5,050
Sent on to Higher Courts - - -	215	268
Total - - - -	29,511	28,651

39. *Convictions.*—The total number of summary convictions in the magistrates' courts was 12,260 as compared with 13,694, a decrease of 1,434 on the preceding year. The number of convictions for offences against the person was 3,849 as against 3,472 in 1882, showing a decrease of 377. There was a decrease of 412 in the convictions for offences under the Masters' and Servants' Acts as compared with 1882.

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The punishments inflicted in the magistrates' courts in 1882 and 1883 are shown in the following comparative statement :—

Punishment.	1882.	1883.
Fine - - - - - - -	55·07	57·41
Peremptory Imprisonment - -	24·52	14·76
Imprisonment in lieu of fine or surety -	18·22	25·70
Whipping - - - - - -	·70	·53
Bound over with or without sureties -	1·49	1·57

In the following table is shown the summary convictions and the convictions in the superior courts in each year since 1873, and the per-centage of such convictions to the population :—

Year.	Estimated Population.	Summary convictions.					Convictions in superior courts.					Grand total.	Per-centage.
		Offences against the Person.	Prædial Larceny.	Offences against Property other than prædial Larceny.	Other Offences.	Total.	Offences against the Person.	Prædial Larceny.	Offences against Property other than prædial Larceny.	Other Offences.	Total.		
1873 -	205,229	5,976	156	1,176	10,726	18,034	104	—	137	63	304	18,338	8·9
1874 -	211,098	5,082	140	1,852	16,555	23,629	114	3	182	30	329	23,958	11·3
1875 -	216,908	7,379	268	2,001	13,115	22,763	113	—	138	28	279	23,042	10·6
1876 -	222,636	6,128	93	1,302	10,026	17,549	81	—	148	28	257	17,806	7·9
1877 -	228,705	7,368	135	1,650	8,977	18,130	104	—	148	49	301	18,431	8·0
1878 -	234,574	5,219	149	1,675	8,688	15,731	104	—	135	45	284	16,015	6·8
1879 -	240,443	4,828	189	1,525	7,387	13,929	110	—	249	44	403	14,332	5·5
1880 -	246,312	3,872	423	1,315	8,244	13,854	121	—	186	14	321	14,175	5·7
1881 -	254,225	4,097	271	1,244	7,453	13,065	84	1	135	13	233	13,398	5·2
1882 -	257,473	3,472	106	1,128	8,988	13,694	51	—	83	18	152	13,846	5·3
1883 -	260,011	3,849	152	1,004	7,255	12,260	102	—	115	56	273	12,533	4·8

GAOLS AND PRISONERS.

40. The total number of prisoners committed was 6,228, showing an increase on the preceding year of 55 prisoners. The number committed for the purposes of penal imprisonment exhibits an increase of 18, the commitments in 1883 being 5,404 as against

4,626 in 1882, 793 persons were committed for safety till trial or for want of security, and 7 for debt. 1,883 (1,402 males, 397 females and 82 juveniles) of these prisoners 1,873 had been previously convicted—1,548 once, 237 twice, and 98 three times or more. The daily average number in prison was 791 as compared with 820 in 1882, and 980 in 1881.

There were 1,080 admissions to the prison hospitals, and 21 cases of sickness resulted fatally, as compared with 2,953 admissions and 21 deaths in 1882. The daily average on the sick list was 23 as compared with 34 in 1882. Four executions took place during the year. On 10 occasions compared with 9 in 1882, whipping was inflicted for offences within the prison walls. The total number of punishments inflicted was 3,806 as against 3,920 in 1882.

HOSPITALS.

41. *Admissions.*—There were 614 patients in the public hospital at Georgetown at the commencement of the year. The number of patients admitted for treatment during the year was 6,999, as compared with 6,126 in the preceding year.

The admissions of patients to the public hospital at New Amsterdam were 1,382, as compared with 1,248 in 1882. There were 118 patients in hospital at the commencement of the year.

42. *Out Patients.*—8,941 out patients were treated at the public hospital in Georgetown, and 3,563 at the hospital at New Amsterdam.

43. *Discharges.*—The number of patients discharged was as follows:—

	Georgetown.	New Amsterdam.
Cured - - - - -	4,124	790
Relieved - - - -	1,628	371
Not improved - - - -	419	42
	6,171	1,203

44. *Deaths.*—There were 891 deaths in the hospital at Georgetown, as compared with 820 in 1882. One hundred and sixteen cases were moribund on admission, and deducting these the mortality was at the rate of 10·18 per cent. of the cases treated as compared with 11·76 per cent. in 1882 and 14·57 per cent. in 1881.

BRITISH GUIANA.

In the New Amsterdam hospital there were 200 deaths, giving a death rate of 13·91 on the number of cases treated, as compared with the death rate in 1882 of 12·82 and in 1881 of 11·31.

45. *Diseases.*—The principal kinds of diseases treated at the Georgetown hospital were: Ulcers, 677 cases; intermittent fever, 593; rheumatism, 329; phthisis, 300; diarrhœa, 224; syphilis, 219; debility, 230; anæmia, 216; abscess, 157; dropsy, 148; gonorrhœa, 101; bronchitis, 158; and eye disease, 120.

LUNATIC ASYLUM.

46. *Admissions.*—There were 381 patients in this institution at the commencement of the year. The admissions were 126, (87 males and 39 females). The daily average number in the asylum was 409·6, an increase of 38·8 as compared with 1882.

47. *Discharges.*—Thirty-nine inmates, 22 males and 8 females, were discharged as cured, and one female left improved and one unimproved, making a total of 32 discharges.

48. *Deaths.*—There were 37 deaths in the institution. In 17 instances the deceased suffered from Bright's disease, and in each of those instances that disease was the immediate cause of death. There was one case of suicide by hanging.

The per-centage of deaths on the average number in the asylum was 9·04. This average, although a fraction higher than the rate for 1882, is still much under that in any preceding year. Calculated on the whole number treated the per-centage of deaths was 7·1.

49. *Form of Mental Disorders.*—The cases in the asylum at the close of the year were classified as follows:—

Quiet, chronic, and convalescent - -	62 per cent.
Maniacal - - - -	26 „
Idiotic, paralytic, and epileptic - -	9 „
Melancholy, acute - - -	3 „

LEPER ASYLUMS.

50. *Asylum for Females, Gorchum.*—The asylum consists of six one-storey buildings 48 feet long by 18 feet wide, raised on pillars seven feet high. The gross superficial area is 5,184 square feet, and contains 46,656 cubic feet air space; 1,200 cubic feet is the average amount of cubic space allowed for each inmate. The asylum is under the supervision and control of Dr. J. D. Hillis, the medical superintendent of the asylum for males at Mahaica.

51. *Admissions, &c.*—The following table shows the admissions to the several asylums and the results for the last two years:—

	Males.				Females.	
	Mahaica.		Kaow Island.		Gorchum.	
	1882.	1883.	1882.	1883.	1882.	1883.
No. of inmates on 1st January -	131	148	50	47	—	49
Admitted - - - -	55	46	1	—	71	16
Results.						
Discharged - - -	1	4	1	5	2	—
Removed to another asylum -	—	—	—	—	2	—
Returned to India - -	6	5	—	—	—	—
Absconded - - - -	16	12	1	2	6	2
Died - - - - -	15	25	2	8	13	12
No. of inmates on 31st December	148	148	47	32	46	50

CONCLUDING REMARKS.

No serious breaches of the peace have occurred, and the criminal statistics for the year exhibit a decrease in the per-centage of convictions to the estimated population of 4·8 as against 5·3 in 1882, and 8·9 in 1873.

The sugar crop of 1883 was above the average, but fell short by 8,000 hhds. of that of 1882, the drought during the last three months of the year not affecting the yield of canes for the year. The extension of cultivation has not progressed, and this is attributed by the planting body to the falling off in the supply of immigrants.

There was a marked improvement in the revenue, and a considerable decrease in the liabilities of the Colony, with the further advantage that the public debt has been to a great extent consolidated.

Contrasting the general results of the year under review with those of the previous year it may be said that they are on the whole highly satisfactory.

(Signed) GEO. MELVILLE,
Assistant Government Secretary.

Government Secretary's Office,
20th June 1884.

BAHAMAS.

BAHAMAS.

No. 6.

Governor H. A. BLAKE to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY.

Government House, Nassau,
MY LORD, March 29, 1884.

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship the Blue Book for 1883, which was this day completed.

Finance.

The revenue collected during the year amounted to 52,475*l.* 9*s.* 8*d.*, which shows an increase over the year 1882 of 7,610*l.* 0*s.* 7*d.* There was a balance in the Treasury on 1st January 1883 of 2,832*l.* 11*s.* 10*d.*, which, added to the amount collected, gives a total of 55,308*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.*

The disbursements, including the payment of 542*l.* 5*s.* 2*d.* outstanding from 1882, amounted to 54,584*l.* 17*s.* 10*d.*, of which sum 7,207*l.* was expended in the reduction of the Public Debt. At the close of the year a balance remained in the Treasury of 723*l.* 3*s.* 8*d.*

Crown Revenue.

The total amount of Crown Revenue collected from all sources was 1,648*l.* 13*s.*, of which 762*l.* 5*s.* 9*d.* was realised by the sale of land, and 220*l.* 8*s.* was received as royalty on export of guano, or cave earth, which valuable fertilizer has for some years been exported until the limit of the deposits has practically been reached. If scientific and systematic agriculture be ever really adopted in the Colony, the loss of so much manure will be severely felt. The returns also show a credit to the Crown Revenue of 2,100*l.*, money paid off in Treasury debentures. The balance to credit of the fund is 2,388*l.* 1*s.* 2*d.*

Among the items of expenditure is included a sum of 50*l.* for payment of the moiety of salary of agricultural inspector. I find that the inspector appointed has no particular technical or scientific education, and is unable to give practical advice or scientific information as to analysis of soils or manures; the means by which the various insect or fungoid pests may be combatted that from time to time attack fruit and other crops; and the many incidental questions that may present themselves where agricultural operations are beginning to show signs of expansion. It is my intention to propose to the Board of Agriculture a different system, that may possibly secure for the Colony the services of a scientific man who has been trained in one of our home institutions.

Crown Land Revenue Estimate.

The estimated revenue and expenditure for 1884, which I have the honour to forward with the Blue Book, shows a probable balance in December of 1,440*l.*, as the receipts for Crown lands in 1883 were increased by spirited competition for pine apple land on Abaco, which is not likely to recur ; the estimate is based on the same figures, in this respect, as those on which last year's estimate were framed.

Salt Pond Revenue.

There is a balance to the credit of this fund of 593*l.* 9*s.* 5*d.* The export of salt in 1883 was 290,974 bushels, value 4,263*l.*, as against 146,328 bushels in 1882, value 2,291*l.* By the proposed tariff now being brought forward in America, the import duty on salt is to be considerably lessened, if not removed. Such a measure would largely increase the export of salt from this Colony and restore the prosperity of Magua.

Public Debt.

During the year 1883, the Public Debt was reduced by the payment of 7,207*l.*, which left due at the close of the year 48,626*l.* 0*s.* 2*d.* This, with 10,636*l.* 6*s.* 3*d.* due to widows and orphans fund, makes a total indebtedness of 59,262*l.* 6*s.* 5*d.* This debenture debt of 48,626*l.* 0*s.* 2*d.* is, with the exception of a very small sum, borrowed at 5*l.* per cent.—the exact sum is 600*l.*, borrowed at 4*l.* 10*s.* per cent. Provision is made for the repayment of 500*l.* annually, and the surplus revenue of the past few years has been devoted to the reduction of the debt. This arrangement has been found unsatisfactory. The extinguishment of the debt by the annual payment of 500*l.* would take 97 years, at an annual expenditure of 2,928*l.* 6*s.*, reducing yearly by 25*l.* the interest on the 500*l.* paid off; while the uncertain calling in and paying off of debentures unsettles the local market and reduces their value as an investment. My predecessor had mentioned the matter to the Crown agents, and on my arrival I found two alternative schemes forwarded by them for the consolidation and more rapid extinction of the present debenture debt. One was a proposition to float a loan in the London market at 4½ per cent., with a cumulative sinking fund of 1 per cent., which, by annual drawings, would pay off the amount in 38¾ years. The cost of floating the loan would be 1 per cent., which, added to the 48,626*l.*, would make the loan to be floated 49,112*l.* This would be extinguished in 38¾ years by an annual payment of 2,701*l.* 3*s.*

The alternative proposition is that the money be raised in the local market by the issue of debentures for 100*l.*, bearing 4 per cent. interest, repayable by a compound sinking fund of 1 per cent., and having a currency of 45 years. The debt would thus be extinguished at the expiration of 45 years, and at an annual expenditure of 2,428*l.* 6*s.*, or 500*l.* less than the amount payable under the present Acts.

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These propositions have been referred to a select committee of the House of Assembly, and I have been informed that the latter scheme will probably be adopted, as affording a convenient investment for Colonial capital, free from the possible disturbance of annual debenture payments.

Legislation.

Twenty-seven Acts were passed by the Legislature in 1883, of which the most important were:—

I.—An Act to prevent the introduction into any island in the Colony of animals affected with contagious or infectious disease.

II.—An Act to authorise the seizure and destruction of diseased and unwholesome articles of food.

III.—An Act for the establishment of a paid fire brigade. It may be roundly stated that when a fire occurs in Nassau no volunteers from the crowd present themselves, as at home, to assist in working the engines. The Act was passed to establish a brigade of a sufficient number of men to work two engines, and to legalise the payment of other persons employed, who may, under the provisions of 29 Vic. c. 25, be compelled to assist in extinguishing any fire at which they may be present.

There is also an engine worked by a volunteer fire brigade.

IV.—An Act to make provision for the dredging of Nassau Harbour.

V.—An Act to provide medical relief for the poor.

Education.

There are in the Colony 57 schools, having on their rolls 4,305 scholars. Of these, 23 schools, with a staff, including paid monitors, of 67 teachers, and a roll of 3,110 scholars, are maintained under the Board of Education at an annual expense of 1,932*l.* 1*s.* The average attendance has been 1,822.

Three schools, besides, received assistance in money and material, on condition that they were unsectarian, open to inspection, and found to work satisfactorily. There are, besides, 25 schools in connexion with the Church of England, having a roll of 1,152 scholars, and five Church of England schools, of which no particulars have been received.

One new school-house has been erected, three others extensively repaired, and preparations are being made for the opening of three more schools.

The present grant for education is 2,500*l.* a year. A proposal has been submitted to the Legislature by me to increase this sum by 500*l.* per annum from the reversion of ecclesiastical endowments. I cannot say that I consider the report of the inspector, who is, so far as I can judge, an able and zealous officer, entirely satisfactory, while from one or two districts petitions have been received, praying for the opening of schools; it is found that where they are open there is great disinclination on the part of parents to supply copy books or any other necessaries for their children's education. In several of the schools established the teachers are

for incapacity, either from want of knowledge or want of the qualities essential in a teacher. There is at the same time great difficulty in procuring the services of teachers. Several young men are now being trained at the best of the schools, by whom I hope to replace some of the incompetent teachers when their training has been completed.

One reason for the apathy, if not the antipathy, of many parents with regard to education is that they see no result from merely literary acquirements. The question presents many difficulties; but I hope the Board of Education may be able ultimately to endow the scholars with some kind of technical instruction that may be of practical benefit to them in their daily pursuits.

Imports.

The value of imports for 1883 was 233,144*l.*, of which 17,512*l.* was from vessels in distress, wrecks, and derelict. Deducting that amount leaves the value of imports 216,632*l.*, against the nett sum of 177,819*l.* in 1882, from which the imports from wrecks, &c. have similarly been eliminated. This excess is due to the large increase in the importation of food stuffs, in consequence of the failure of crops from the long continued drought.

Exports.

The value of exports was 147,626*l.*, as against 161,300*l.* in 1882. There was a falling off of 8,678*l.* in sponges alone, 2,935*l.* in oranges, and 2,278*l.* in preserved pine apples.

Shipping.

The total number of sailing vessels entered in the Colony was 378, of which 280 entered with 27,474 tons of cargo, and 98 with 11,498 tons of ballast. The total number cleared was 367, of which 311 cleared with 32,723 tons of cargo, and 56 with 4,080 tons of ballast.

The number of steam vessels entered was 64, of which 61 entered with 88,690 tons of cargo, and three with 105 tons of ballast. The number cleared was 68, 66 with 95,825 tons of cargo, and two with 67 tons of ballast.

A considerable number of small schooners have been or are being built at New Providence and some of the out islands. These boats are engaged in sponge fishing and "turtling." I believe that these boats are generally worked by the crews for the owners on the share system, but I do not yet know enough to speak with confidence on the subject.

Agriculture.

As regards this most important section of the Blue Book, except as to the amount of exports, there is no reliable information of any kind. The number of acres granted in the Colony is 324,018. This is the one fact of which we have any registration. The returns show an estimated remainder of 1,784,247 acres; but

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unfavourably reported upon, some on account of laziness, some this is quite unreliable. I am informed by Lieutenant White, R.N., now surveying these banks with H.M.S. "Sparrowhawk" that the size and shape of one or two of the islands are incorrectly given on the Admiralty charts, and the total acreage has been estimated on the size as so given.

The numbers of acres granted is no criterion as to the amount of land in cultivation. Close to the town of Nassau there are several hundreds of acres that have been granted over 100 years ago, and changed hands more than once; but they still await the first attempts to reclaim them. Thousands of acres between Nassau and the Blue Hills, peculiarly well suited for the growth of cocoa-nuts, are still covered with primeval bush. Within the last four years there has been an inclination to develop the planting of cocoa-nuts, and several thousands have been put down, which show every sign of vigorous growth. After these trees have begun to bear, and have demonstrated the commercial value of the culture, I have no doubt that the rank scrub that now loads our southern breezes with malaria will give way to groves of cocoa-nut and orange trees, that must materially increase the wealth of the Colony.

Of agriculture, as the word is understood in Europe, there is practically none. The nature of the soil, which is, at best, a light coating of loam over honeycombed coral rock, makes any rotation system difficult. So far as I can learn, the usual system is to take up small patches, and, having cleared them by cutting and burning the bush, to grow there pine apples, sugar canes, corn, or other crops until the soil has been exhausted. The adjoining bush is then cut down and the same plan adopted, leaving the worked out patch to lie fallow until the rapid growth of bush once more covers it and refertilizes it with the fallen leaves of 20 or 25 years. No manure is used, and until its uses are learned there is, in my opinion, no hope of improvement upon this primitive system of wasteful culture.

There is at present no machinery by which the amount of live stock can be even approximately estimated. I have not yet seen the out islands, but from my own observation I see that in New Providence the amount of stock is very small, yet, if the scrub were cleared, and Bermuda or Guinea grass, either of which grow freely, sown or planted between cocoa-nuts or orange trees, it would afford ample pasturage for all the animals required on the island, and allow of a large number being exported.

Oranges.

There was an excellent crop of oranges last year, but by the hurricane of 7th and 8th September it was almost destroyed. There had been a long drought, and the orange orchards were attacked by a well known scale insect, which threatened heir total destruction. Every agent known to science was tried for the destruction of these pests, without success; but after the

hurricane, which lasted with such violence for over 24 hours, their ravages were stayed, and now the orchards show signs of a good crop for the present year.

I do not know if in Florida, where the scale insects are well known, it has been observed that their propagation has been checked by a hurricane. The mere beating of the branches together could not have destroyed them where whole trees were covered with them as with a bark. Here the hurricane was accompanied by a deluge of rain, and at the same time the air was filled with the salt spray, carried across the islands from sea to sea. It may be worth investigation whether, in the war of the elements, nature has not mixed the antidote in proper proportion, and applied it effectually to every point where the insect could exist. The export of oranges fell short of 1882 by nearly two and a half millions.

Pine Apples.

The long drought affected the pine apple crop. The shipment of pine apples was 375,236 doz., as against 487,871 doz. in 1882. There were shipped 25,086 cases of preserved pine apples, being 7,000 cases less than in the previous year. I understand that another preserving establishment is about to be started by an American. This will insure, by competition, increased activity and better prices.

Cotton.

From the out islands 1,906*l.* worth of cotton was shipped, which exceeded the export of 1882 by 200*l.* The weight was 86,349 lbs., as against 72,698 lbs. in 1882.

Prison.

During the year there were 353 prisoners committed, of whom 291 were imprisoned in pursuance of sentence; of these, 186 had been previously convicted. The daily average of prisoners was 51·68 men, 16·39 women, and 3·86 juveniles. Daily average on sick list 4·36; deaths in 1883–4, four.

The prisoners labour in association by day, and are separated by night. Nothing can be better than the internal arrangements and discipline of the prison. Except shot drill, which punishment all able-bodied male prisoners perform, I find the only kind of labour at which they are placed is mending and cleaning the public roads and streets. The Prison Board value their labour at 1*s.* 3*d.* a day, which is, I think, rather too high an estimate, but under the circumstances of the Colony, and taking into consideration that the great majority of offences are of a trivial nature, I think the prisoners could not be better employed than at present arranged. I find that the prisoners undergoing penal servitude are worked in leg chains, which sometimes, I am informed by the medical officer, chafe and gall the ankles. In a climate like this, such a punishment must be very severe, and the imposition of leg chains must materially lessen the man's

BAHAMAS.

power of work. The chains do not prevent escape where it is attempted, as the only prisoner who escaped during the year wore riveted chains. I have suggested to the Prison Board a modification of the system, and the marking of prisoners undergoing sentence for felony, by their wearing a parti-coloured dress, the chain only being used in case of attempt to escape. The Board has adopted this view.

Offences.

There were 29 cases tried by indictment, in 21 of which the prisoners were convicted, and in eight cases acquitted. Of summary offences there were 1,261 convictions, 583 cases dismissed, and 349 failed for want of prosecution.

Hospital.

In the public hospital there are an average of 82·18 patients; 278 were admitted during the year, which, with 79 in hospital at the beginning of the year, make a total of 357 persons treated; 196 males and 161 females. Of these, 103 were discharged cured, 60 were relieved, and 20 were not improved. 96 patients died, and 78 remained at the end of the year.

The large proportion of deaths requires explanation. I am aware of the fact that the black population are singularly deficient in vitality, or rather in the power of resisting disease, and also that they rarely go to the hospital, except as a last resource, when the disease has arrived at a stage that precludes in many cases the hope of more than palliative treatment. I found the hospital on my visit clean as possible, but on looking over the answers to Question II. I see that in several of the wards the cubic space available for each patient is under 500 feet, in two under 400 feet, which is palpably insufficient. I shall communicate with the Board on the subject.

Lunatic Asylum.

In the lunatic asylum, which, with the leper hospital, forms a portion of the same institution, there is a daily average of 21 patients. 11 were admitted during the year and eight died. The accommodation for violent lunatics is extremely bad, and a Bill has been sent to the Legislature to provide funds for building proper reception wards for dangerous or excited lunatics.

It may not be out of place to mention to your Lordship the great anxiety that exists in the Colony for the establishment of telegraphic communication, cut off, as we are, from America, except by fortnightly mails in winter, and monthly mails in summer; every branch of export business is deranged and business is impeded. The establishment of telegraphic communication would probably make Nassau the principal port of call for the Gulf trade, and increase the annual stream of Americans who come down to enjoy this exquisite winter climate. This

would in turn be followed by a bi-weekly, or possibly a daily service between Nassau and the coast of Florida, which would materially assist the advancement of the Colony.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. The Earl of Derby, &c. &c.

(Signed) HENRY A. BLAKE, Governor.

TURKS ISLANDS.

No. 7.

The OFFICER Administering the GOVERNMENT of JAMAICA to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY.

King's House, Jamaica,
March 21, 1884.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the Blue Book of Turks and Caicos Islands for the year 1883, together with the report of the Commissioner thereon.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. The Earl of Derby, &c. &c.

(Signed) G. M. W. CLARKE.

BLUE BOOK REPORT for TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS, 1883.

Revenue and Expenditure.

1. The receipts during the year amounted to 7,781*l.* 19*s.* 5*d.*, and the expenditure to 8,019*l.* 7*s.* 9*d.*, which trifling excess in the latter reduced the surplus of the previous year from 2,334*l.* 14*s.* 8*d.* to 1,997*l.* 6*s.* 4*d.*

Imports and Exports.

2. The following comparative tables of imports, and exports, &c. show the trade of the year:—

VALUE of EXPORTS of DOMESTIC PRODUCE and MANUFACTURES in the years 1881, 1882, and 1883.

Articles.	1881.	1882.	1883.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Salt	22,908 10 2	21,095 6 5	24,950 0 5
Cave earth	697 13 0	1,205 12 8	6,265 16 0
Sponge	429 15 11	720 14 0	632 19 5
Fresh fruit	—	13 12 0	—
Straw, brazilletto, &c.	280 0 0	296 2 5	285 19 0
Totals	24,315 19 1	23,331 7 6	32,134 14 10

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS.

VALUE of IMPORTS for the years 1881, 1882, and 1883.

—	1881.	1882.	1883.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Imports - - -	27,054 4 6	26,822 11 3	24,557 13 8

QUANTITY of SALT exported from each Port for the years 1881, 1882, and 1883.

Ports.	1881.	1882.	1883.
Grand Turk - -	593,626	659,225	682,741
Salt Cay - - -	478,660	476,530	440,110
Cockburn Harbour -	358,610	406,327	582,742
Total bushels -	1,430,896	1,542,082	1,705,593

Salt in the Colony to 31st December 1880 - 700,000 bushels
" " " 1881 - 1,000,000 "
" " " 1882 - 650,000 "
" " " 1883 - 900,000 "

RAINFALL at GRAND TURK, SALT CAY, COCKBURN HARBOUR, and KEW for each month of the year 1883.

Months.	Grand Turk.	Salt Cay.	Cockburn Harbour.	Kew.
January - - -	1·08	1·21	2·53	2·61
February - -	·83	1·78	1·03	2·47
March - - -	2·60	·77	4·06	1·65
April - - -	1·12	2·76	·24	·64
May - - -	1·10	1·47	1·81	3·08
June - - -	·76	1·09	·40	1·32
July - - -	1·60	·08	1·20	2·91
August - - -	·89	·83	—	3·55
September - -	4·72	1·45	3·96	1·26
October - - -	2·34	1·57	1·81	3·96
November - -	6·74	4·88	4·94	5·48
December - -	1·67	2·38	1·51	2·50
Total - -	25·45	20·27	23·49	31·43

RETURN of the NUMBER and CLASS of VESSELS that passed the LIGHT-HOUSE at GRAND TURK by daylight in 1883.

—	War Vessels.	Steamers.	Ships.	Barques.	Barkantines.	Brigs.	Brigantines.	Schooners.	Three-masted Schooners.	Total.
Number and class of vessels that passed through the Turks Islands Passage by daylight - - -	4	2	—	29	7	1	72	76	30	221
Number and class of vessels that passed the lighthouse and anchored at Turks Islands - - -	—	32	1	17	8	4	56	41	18	177
Total - -	4	34	1	46	15	5	128	117	48	398

SCHEDULE of RECEIPTS and EXPENDITURE of the PUBLIC REVENUE for the year 1883, in comparison with the preceding year 1882.

Imports.	1882.			1883.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Alcohol - - - - - -	0	8	0	17	16	0
Ale, porter, cider, &c. - - - -	24	18	0	19	13	6
Asses - - - - - -		—		1	0	0
Bay water - - - - -	14	9	6	10	16	0
Beans and peas - - - - -	7	1	8	5	12	8
Bread - - - - - -	31	2	10	24	7	5
Butter - - - - - -	37	1	7	50	7	4
Candles - - - - - -	4	4	5	5	4	10
Cattle and Calves - - - -	3	2	6	3	8	9
Cheese - - - - - -	20	3	5	18	19	10
Chocolate - - - - -	8	0	1	7	15	5
Cigars - - - - - -	7	19	6	10	2	3
Cocoa - - - - - -		—		0	1	9
Coffee - - - - - -	21	16	6	21	14	1
Cordage - - - - - -	8	6	5	6	14	11
Cordials - - - - - -	1	2	6	1	10	0
Corn - - - - - -	19	18	0	12	16	3
Fish, dried and pickled - - - -	32	17	9	24	14	4
Flour, wheat - - - - -	516	11	7	484	5	0
Flour, rye, and corn meal - - -	88	9	9	74	8	0
Horses - - - - - -	20	0	0	8	0	0
Lard - - - - - -	47	9	5	59	4	8
Lumber and shingles - - - -	59	12	10	79	8	8
Meat, salted and cured - - - -	107	2	0	138	6	5
Molasses, syrup, and honey - - -	73	10	4	72	6	6
Oils - - - - - -	57	13	11	45	10	11
Paint in oil - - - - -	12	10	0	8	10	9
Pitch, tar, and rosin - - - -	3	6	0	1	10	9
Raisins, currants, and figs - - -	4	16	0	4	13	11
Rice - - - - - -	75	17	11	58	6	2

Imports.	1882. £	s.	d.	1883. £	s.	d.
Rum, brandy, gin, &c.	451	7	5	521	18	5
Sheep and goats	0	3	0	0	6	0
Soap	12	3	0	37	4	2
Spirits, turpentine	0	1	0	0	2	0
Sugar	173	18	11	175	17	6
Swine	0	6	0	0	10	10
Tea	22	0	9	21	18	7
Tobacco	34	5	10	44	4	11
Wine	38	13	7	31	10	1
Ad valorem duties	934	15	10	815	1	10
	2,977	7	9	2,926	1	5
Other Sources of Revenue.						
Royalty of 10 per cent. ad valorem on salt exported: in 1882—1,542,082 bushels; in 1883—1,705,593 bushels	2,409	12	2	2,665	3	1
Light duties	698	10	0	783	7	8
Auction duties	30	19	3	42	11	8
Fines from Supreme and Police Courts	89	5	9	51	0	0
Fees of office	97	17	11	57	7	6
Postage	127	5	1	138	0	6
Post Office Money Order commissions	12	6	7	8	15	10
Liquor licenses	75	0	0	75	0	0
Wine „	58	0	0	58	0	0
Dog Tax	18	11	6	15	18	0
Sales Crown land	1	19	9	5	13	0
Lease „ „	39	13	2	31	6	6
Receipt from Imperial Post Office	300	0	0	300	0	0
Wharfage and storage	43	11	9	45	3	3
Miscellaneous—Sales Government property, &c.	160	14	11	60	7	7
Royalty on cave earth exported	48	4	6	238	12	0
Special	317	16	2	279	11	5
	4,529	8	6	4,855	18	0
Recapitulation.						
Imports	2,977	7	9	2,926	1	5
Other sources	4,529	8	6	4,855	18	0
	7,506	16	3	7,781	19	5
Balance from 1881 and 1882	1,893	7	6	2,234	14	8
	9,400	3	9	10,016	14	1
Expenditure for 1882 and 1883	7,165	9	1	8,019	7	9
Balance for 1883 and 1884	2,234	14	8	1,997	6	4

3. In connexion with the foregoing tables, I may remark that the quantity of salt shipped, viz., 1,705,593 bushels, is the largest since the year 1876, but I regret that the value of it has not improved.

4. A large quantity of cave earth has been exported owing to operations having been commenced in the caves recently discovered at "Breezy Point" East Caicos.

5. Sponge, Palmetto straw, and other minor products of export remain at their average, but the total value of the exports

was 32,134*l.* 14*s.* 10*d.* against 23,331*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* in the previous year; the increase consisting of about 4,000*l.* for salt and 5,000*l.* for cave earth.

6. The value of the Imports was only 24,557*l.*, about ten per cent. less than the average of the last few years.

7. As the duties collected reached the average, I attribute the difference in the value to the absence of heavy importations from wrecks which are, I am glad to report, becoming rarer and rarer.

Public Works.

8. A great many improvements have been carried out during the year, the cost being defrayed from the surplus revenue of former years.

9. The wharf attached to the warehouse premises at Grand Turk purchased by the Government in 1882 was renewed throughout, and public landing stairs attached thereto by which persons coming ashore from vessels are enabled to step out of a boat instead of the "old time" practice of being carried to land in the arms of a boatman, a very primitive and awkward custom.

10. A chain pump has been placed on the tank attached to the warehouse and wharf premises, by which water is raised and flows through an iron pipe along the wharf. This is found to be very convenient for vessels wanting water, as the casks can be filled without being moved from the boat that brings them ashore.

11. The stone warehouse has not yet been erected, but will be commenced this year.

12. Adjoining these premises a very neat little public market named the Victoria Market was erected and opened in July, which several improvements, when the old wooden warehouses are pulled down and the scheme completed by the erection of a stone building, will make a very great addition to the appearance of the town of Grand Turk, and be servicable and lasting works.

13. A large massive beacon 40 feet high, in the shape of an obelisk, made of pitched pine lumber, boarded and shingled throughout, and built substantially enough to last for 50 years, was erected on Land Cay, an island at the southern entrance to the Turks Island passage. It is visible about 14 miles, and is found very useful, especially to steamers coming from the south.

14. The sea wall in front of the town at Grand Turk was completed at a cost of 200*l.* During the last few years 100 yards of this wall have been built, and is a great protection to the road along the shore.

15. A piece of ground (3½ acres) has been enclosed at Grand Turk for a public cemetery, with a stone wall five feet high, neatly plastered and whitewashed, and is now (March) being laid out and prepared for interments. This provision was much wanted, as the yards attached to the chapels are nearly full, and owing to the flatness of the Island in the centre were they are it was often found that a body was interred in water.

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS.

16. Besides the new and special improvements the annual vote of 250*l.* was spent in repairing roads and bridges, and in painting and keeping in good order generally the several public buildings, tanks, &c., throughout the Dependency, all which I believe are now in better order than they have been at any time since the disastrous hurricane of 1866.

Legislation.

17. The most important Ordinance was that for improving the system of education and increasing the grant of public money to 600*l.* per annum, which law only came into actual operation on the 1st January 1884, so has not yet had time to show any results.

18. Other laws were also passed for the "Management of the Market," "The slaughtering of Animals," "Reducing the "upset price of Crown land at the Caicos to 2*s.* per acre."

Civil Establishment.

19. No permament change occurred in the Civil establishment. Mr. Anderson, Judge of the Supreme Court returned to the Dependency in May from Jamaica, where he had been for eleven months acting as a district court judge. The Commissioner was absent on vacation and short leave from July to December.*

Pensions.

20. One small pension of 4*l.* 16*s.* per annum, payable from the vote for widows and orphans, lapsed through death, but the general list was increased by the addition from the 1st May of Mr. A. C. Lowe, formerly colonial secretary, who receives under Law 8 of 1873, by which the constitution of these Islands was rearranged, a sum of 198*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* per annum.

Consuls.

21. No change occurred.

Agriculture.

22. A severe drought of unusual duration has rather discouraged those making a first attempt at planting on the Caicos, but 24,000 pine slips obtained from the adjoining Bahama Islands and about 2,000 cocoanuts have been planted by the Government and private individuals.

23. Many smaller vegetables, such as cabbages, tomatoes, cucumbers, carrots, turnips, &c. have been seen for the first time in the market as products of the Dependency.

24. I hope this is only a beginning, at any rate it is a proof that even in seasons of unusual drought something can be done. It

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* When Mr. Sanguinetti of the Colonial Secretary's Office in Jamaica acted. Signed E. N. W. March 20, 1884. [Added in Jamaica.]

is, however, a hard task to get men accustomed to the vagabonding life of a wrecker to settle down and work a field.

25. The fibre producing plants of the Aloe tribe thrive well on these islands, and a great many have been planted, waiting for the invention of some small portable machine with which to extract the fibre. The leaves will not bear the expense of transport in their green state, and the machine must be portable, for there are no good roads to the fields.

General Remarks.

26. No particular event of general public interest occurred during the year, which was very quiet in every sense.

27. There was less crime and fewer prisoners than for many years; perhaps partly caused by there being plenty of labour required for shipping the large demand for salt, and for the improvements carried out by the Government from public revenue. I think it may be safely assumed, looking at the large export of salt, and the fact that the borrowers from the Bank paid punctually the calls made upon them, that nobody was worse off at the end than at the begining of the year, and if the protective duty is taken off salt in the United States, a question so long debated, I believe it will give fresh vitality to salt raking here which has been lately rather a poor business.

(Signed) R. B. LLEWELYN,
Commissioner.

4th March 1884.

ST. VINCENT.

No. 8.

Governor SIR WILLIAM ROBINSON, K.C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY.

Barbados, May 1, 1884.

Forwarded.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WILLIAM ROBINSON,
Governor.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Derby,
&c. &c.

Government House, St. Vincent,
April 10, 1884.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward my report upon the Saint Vincent Blue Book for the year 1883 under the 271st Rule of the Colonial Office Regulations.

Revenue and Expenditure.

2. The balance to the credit of the general revenue on the 1st of January 1883 was 4,177*l.*, the amount collected during the year was 35,121*l.*, making a total of 39,298*l.*; the expenditure amounted to 32,962*l.*, leaving a surplus of 6,336*l.* to be carried forward to the credit of the General Revenue for 1884, not including the balance of 1,985*l.* 15*s.* in favour of the Government House Loan.

Local Revenues.

3. The following is a comparative statement of the Local Revenues collected for special purposes in 1882-1883:—

	1882.	1883.
	£	£
Immigration - - - - -	3,135	4,985
Public lands and buildings - - -	236	192
Town of Kingstown (Waterworks account) -	720	703
Total - - - -	4,091	5,880

Public Debt.

4. At the commencement of the year the public debt consisted of—

(*a.*) 1,500*l.* due to the savings bank, 500*l.* of which were, however, repaid during 1883; and

(*b.*) Of 2,000*l.* raised under "the Government House Loan Ordinance, 1882," which liability was also reduced by 160*l.*, four debentures having been paid off under the provisions of that Ordinance.

The town of Kingstown still owes this Government 2,153*l.* on account of the advances made to the Kingstown Waterworks.

Public Works.

5. Although in general, expenditure on public works was in abeyance, pending the report of the Royal Commissioners, the approval of the Secretary of State was given to—

(1.) The renewal of the Kingstown Jetty at an estimated cost of 800*l.*; and

(2.) For the erection of a residence for the Medical Officer of District No. 3. Both these works were urgently required, the first because the Kingstown Jetty had become in many places dangerous, the runners being decayed, whilst many of the

piles had rotted away in the space between the rise and fall of the tide; and the second because the Medical Officer of District No. 3 was compelled to live outside the limits of his district to the great inconvenience of the public, there being no house to let in that portion of the Colony.

6. Under the head of "Sales of Government Property" a sum of 121*l.* is included, being the proceeds of the sale of some of the old Government House property, which was deteriorating by the process of time and exposure; the best articles of household furniture were removed to the small quarters occupied by me as a temporary Government House at "Fort Charlotte," and will be available for fitting up the new Government House as soon as the question of the site of a permanent residence for the Officer Administering this Government has been decided upon.

Legislation.

7. Sixteen Ordinances were passed during the year 1883.

Nos. 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8, consolidate Ordinances passed in former years, which at different times have been amended, with a view to printing one instead of several Ordinances on the same subject in the new edition of the laws of Saint Vincent, which I hope to see published during the course of this year (1884). The following are amongst the most important of the other Ordinances upon new subjects dealt with during the session.

No. 2. This Ordinance regulating weights and measures, which had been passed in 1882, but which had not been assented to, was reintroduced in 1883. It provides authorised standards, with regard to weights and measures, corresponding with the Imperial standards, and makes provision for the discovery and punishment of fraud in the use of untrue weights.

No. 9. An Ordinance to authorise the conditional discharge of prisoners under licences; and

No. 14. An Ordinance to regulate the practice of flogging prisoners; the former enables the governor to discharge convicts conditionally upon tickets of leave, whilst the latter provides that no person who is not officially connected with the prison shall be present when a prisoner is flogged. I had already introduced this practice when at Tobago, and on my arrival here had instructed the Marshal that none but prison officers were to be present at the infliction of this punishment; but legislation became necessary, as the Secretary of State gave special instructions upon this subject during the course of the year.

No. 13. This Ordinance was passed to provide for the performance of certain judicial duties in the absence from the Colony of the chief justice out of term, in cases of evident necessity or when by delay a right might otherwise be lost or a wrong sustained.

Councils.

8. No alteration took place in the constitution of the executive or legislative councils.

ST. VINCENT.

Pensions.

9. There was no increase to the pension list in 1883.

Population.

10. The number of the inhabitants continues steadily if not rapidly to increase, and I anticipate that when the next census is taken in 1891, the figures will have reached at least 45,000 souls.

Education.

11. Under this head I am happy to be able to report the opening of the first of a new class of schools for the education exclusively of the children of East Indian immigrants.

This school was established on the "Argyle" estate by the owners, Messrs. J. Simmons and Sons, upon whose property a very large number of coolies, about 200, are located, of whom about 65 are indentured immigrants. Much credit is due to Mr. Charles Simmons and to his manager, Mr. McKenzie, for the interest they have taken in establishing this school. The house itself was built entirely at the expense of the estate, under the immediate supervision of the manager; and the proprietors have guaranteed the payment of 10*l.* for two years to the schoolmistress in addition to the salary paid to her by the Board of Education; should this experiment prove a success I trust to see other schools upon the same principle started in the Windward and Leeward Districts of the Colony.

Postage.

12. An amount of 153*l.* 6*s.* 2*d.* appears as an increase on the revenue side of the comparative statement, whilst for postal services an increase of 201*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* appears as an item of expenditure, these figures may possibly require explanation. The increase of postage has arisen from the changes consequent upon this Colony's joining the Postal Union. Although under the Union the rates of postage are lowered, St. Vincent has on the other hand to pay over less to the United Kingdom out of what is collected, and thus the revenue from postage is apparently increased; but when the stipulated share of the loss to the Imperial Government on account of the Postal Union is taken into consideration the result to the Colony will be a loss instead of a gain by this service in the Post Office. I am not without hopes, however, that in process of time the increase of correspondence to be expected from the diminished rates will materially alter these figures. In 1882 the expenditure on account of postal services was less by 200*l.* than that of last year, chiefly owing to payments on account of expenses entailed on this Colony by joining the Postal Union.

Prisons and Criminal Statistics.

13. As compared with the averages of former years the prison statistics do not show much variation; there is, however, a marked

decrease in the number of prædial larcenies, which I attribute to the effect of enforcing sentences of peremptory imprisonment in all such cases. It is also satisfactory to note that the number of offences reported fell from 2,467 in 1882 to 2,203 during the course of last year.

Hospitals.

14. I paid nine visits of surprise to the Colonial Hospital during last year, and found the daily average number of patients to be 36.

The hospital itself is the old Commissariat Store in Edinburgh, and when it was first occupied seven or eight years ago it was only intended to be used temporarily. A very fine hospital was built on the site of the old one in Kingstown, but its occupation has been delayed for over eighteen months pending instructions from the Secretary of State.

The site of the Edinburgh Hospital is objectionable, owing to its distance from town, so that very many people who would otherwise take advantage of the dispensary (attached to it) are precluded from applying for relief owing to the time that must be consumed in going to and coming from that hospital. When the patients in the Edinburgh Hospital are transferred to the new building the the paupers might with great advantage be removed to it from the asylum at "Fort Charlotte," where they complain bitterly of its "exposed and bleak" situation, to the effects of which I fear a large number of the older and more infirm paupers have succumbed. In justice to myself I should add that these people were hastily transferred to the old Military Barracks at "Fort Charlotte" during my absence from this Colony in 1882; a transfer which for the above reasons would not have been made had I been in the Island.

Imports and Exports.

15. On the whole there is a slight improvement on the amount taken at the Custom House in 1883 over that of 1882; the duties on spirits and tobacco showing an increase of over 600*l.* There are, however, slight decreases upon metals, matches, and kerosine oil; whilst upon goods liable to ad valorem duties there is a falling off of no less than 465*l.*, principally upon dry goods; this is accounted for by the failure of one of the leading firms of the Colony, importers of cottons, &c., and by the temporary stoppage of another establishment which also dealt largely in this class of goods.

The Customs Revenue for the years 1882 and 1883 shows only such fluctuations as are usually found in such comparative statistics. Under nearly all classes of imports, increases or decreases are to be found.

The exports were about 14,000*l.* in excess of those of last year, owing to an increase in the quantity of sugar manufactured.

Rum Duties.

16. I may here mention that the duty taken under the head of "Excise" fell but a few pounds short of the amount placed on last year's estimates, viz., 6,000*l.* showing an increase of about 1,200*l.*, owing to one shilling additional in the duty being imposed.

Shipping.

17. There was a slight increase in the tonnage entered both inwards and outwards last year, whilst as regards steam vessels there is an increase of about 30,000 tons entered and of about 3,100 tons cleared. These figures seem somewhat difficult to reconcile, but can be accounted for as follows:—

Of the many large mail and passenger steamers that come to this port annually, almost all bring cargo, and therefore have to enter at the Custom House, whilst it frequently happens that these vessels, especially the Royal Mail steamers, take no cargo away from Saint Vincent, in which case no clearance entry is made.

With regard to the increase in steam tonnage, I would explain that here, as in other parts of the world, steamers are absorbing gradually the traffic formerly carried on in sailing vessels.

The Controller of Customs points out "that the cargo brought "to or carried from the Colony corresponds in a very nominal "degree to the tonnage of the steamers entering or clearing, "because the cargo brought or taken away may be as little as "one ton, and seldom exceeds 100 tons by any steam vessel."

There was an increase of 558 tons amongst small vessels clearing for the French West Indies, a large quantity of last year's molasses having been exported to Martinique and Guadeloupe to be worked up at the Usiries in those Colonies.

General Remarks.

18. The health of the Colony during the past year has been very good; the quarterly reports of the District Medical Officers merely showing the usual returns of mortality amongst old people, infants, and very young children. There were only three deaths amongst the indentured coolie population, but there were 30 births.

The rainfall, 109 inches in 1883, was a little below that of the preceding year, but the sugar crop was in excess of that of 1882; more, however, depends upon the time of the year at which the rain falls than upon the actual quantity precipitated. Unfortunately no change is shown in the determination of the principal landowners of the Colony to cultivate anything but the "sugar cane." Cocoa is neglected, although the Saint Vincent hill sides are eminently suited to its cultivation, as I have seen very fine

specimens growing at the "Three Rivers" estate in the Windward District, and under the shadow of the "Morne à Garou," a mountain 4,000 feet high in the Leeward District. In the intervals of my inspections of the coolie lines on the numerous estates in both the Windward and Leeward divisions of the Island I fished some of the rivers of Saint Vincent, and found that a small fish seldom coming up to one pound in weight took the same flies with which I have taken fish of much larger size in the rivers in Northumberland the natives call these fish "mountain mullets," and they are like grayling, excellent eating. I am sorry to say, however, that the few gentlemen I met, who are Waltonites, complained that the number of these fish was steadily decreasing owing to the "poisoning" of the mountain streams by the negroes, which it is almost impossible to prevent, although there is a law against it, as the country is so wild and inaccessible, and as it is nobody's business to stop these poachers.

At a meeting of the Executive Council held in April last year it was resolved to apply to the Secretary of State for leave to borrow 24,000*l.* to be spent on public works and insanitary improvements. Of this amount it was proposed to spend 2,000*l.* on a general survey of the Colony in order to ascertain the boundaries of the Crown Lands, and 10,000*l.* (to be repaid by the ratepayers of Kingstown) in improving the water supply, and in clearing the mouths of the North and South rivers, which run through the town. Amongst the general works also contemplated under the proposed loan were quarters for the medical officers of three districts, the renewal of the jetty, and the conversion of certain old military buildings into a "Yaws Hospital." In concluding these remarks, I am glad to say that in two districts, those of Doctor Boyd (No. 4) and Doctor Kirkpatrick (No. 5), this loathsome disease, for which the hospital above allude d to is to be prepared, has been all but exterminated amongst the indentured coolies; and that by far the greater number of coolies under indenture are found on the estates in medical districts Nos. 4 and 5.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. (Signed) AUGUSTUS FRED GORE,
The Earl of Derby, Lieutenant Governor.
&c. &c.

St. Lucia.

ST. LUCIA.

No. 9.

Administrator R. T. Goldsworthy, C.M.G., to Governor Sir William Robinson, K.C.M.G.

Government House, St. Lucia,
April 18, 1884.

Sir,

In forwarding the Blue Book for 1883, it is with pleasure I have to report a continuous and progressive advancement in the material prosperity of the Colony.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. T. Goldsworthy,
Administrator.

His Excellency
Sir William Robinson, K.C.M.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

Taxes, Duties, Fees, &c.

1. These remain as in 1882. It has not been deemed desirable to make any change, pending the report of the Royal Commissioners.

Revenue and Expenditure.

2. The revenue for the past year has been the largest ever received, amounting to 43,026*l.* 5*s.* 3*d.*, exceeding by 6092*l.* 5*s.* 3*d.*, the amount estimated, whilst showing an increase of 5,951*l.* 5*s.* 3*d.* over the previous year's receipts; this is mainly attributable to an improved condition of affairs owing to the measures which have been adopted for the suppression of smuggling and to the more efficient protection of the revenue.

3. The revenue shows an increase in the last decade of 21,895*l.* 5*s.* 3*d.* (that for 1874 amounting to only 21,131*l.*), or in other words the revenue has doubled itself in that period. On the other hand the expenditure (in 1874; 24,268*l.*) has only been increased by little more than half as much again in the same period, the expenditure for 1883 being 36,652*l.* 9*s.* 4*d.*; but to put the results more clearly, the revenue in 1883, as compared with 1874, is as 4 to 2, whilst the expenditure is as 3 to 2 approximately.

4. Comparing the revenue of 1883 with more recent years; whilst in 1881 it was only 32,291*l.* 9*s.* 1*d.*, in the year under consideration it reached 43,026*l.* 5*s.* 3*d.*, the expenditure for similar years being 32,652*l.* and 36,652*l.* respectively. Thus, whilst the revenue has been growing at the rate of over 5,000*l.* per annum,

the expenditure has only been increasing by 2,000*l.* annually. The following are the principal items which have chiefly contributed to this excess of revenue.

	1881.	1882.	1883.
	£	£	£
Import duties - - -	17,592	19,580	2,1887
Rum duties - - -	6,118	9,448	11,585
Road tax - - -	1,218	1,923	2,109
Miscellaneous - - -	356	550	1,033

5. Under the head of "expenditure" a large increase, amounting to 466*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*, occurs in the fixed establishments, the Secretary of State having sanctioned salary at the increased rate of 1,000*l.* instead of 800*l.* to the Administrator of the Government.

6. Subjoined is a comparative statement of the revenue and expenditure in the last five years.

Years.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1879 - - - -	31,872	32,090
1880 - - - -	32,431	31,918
1881 - - - -	32,291	32,653
1882 - - - -	38,953	34,772
1883 - - - -	43,026	36,652

Public Works.

7. Under this head are included "new buildings," "alterations and repairs" to existing ones, and "roads and bridges."

8. The expenditure during the year amounted to 6,433*l.*, against 5,020*l.* estimated. In the former sum, however, is included 1,000*l.* voted by the Legislative Council for opening up a new road between Castries and Dennery; this road, which will not be completed till some time during the current year, and for which a further sum of 1,000*l.* has this year been voted, was rendered necessary by the unsafe and dangerous condition of the road over the Barra Barra Mountain, the only existing means of communication except by the coast line between the leeward and windward portion of the Island.

9. The new road will be available for wheeled traffic, which the old one was not. It will, besides, open up a large tract of country (Crown lands chiefly) covered with primæval forest, the soil, from

ST. LUCIA.

an analysis made by Mr. Code, a Government surveyor, containing most valuable properties, which prove it to be particularly adapted for the cultivation of all tropical productions.

10. A saving of 722*l.* was effected during the year on the vote for the Yaws hospital, a Government building having been utilised, which, by the expenditure of less than 100*l.*, was rendered suitable for the purpose. The advantage of such an institution is evidenced by the number discharged "cured," and the marked decrease of the disease in the island.

11. The following are the principal improvements effected on the roads during the past year as reported by the Colonial engineer.

"Gros Islet" road, nearly 7 miles in length, macadamized to the extent of 3½ miles.

"Choc Road", through Union to Marquis (6 miles 42 chains), new bridge built over the Balata river, and a second bridge thoroughly repaired, and over a mile of road macademized.

"Road from Castries to Dennery," 29 chains of the "Mabouya" section macadamized and two bridges constructed.

"Road from Castries to Anse la Raye," 12 miles and 15 chains macadamized through "Cul-de-Sac" and "Roseau" valleys, at which places are sugar factories.

"Road from Morne Fortuné to Ciceron," macadamized to the exent of 16 chains.

"Road from Soufriere to Etangs," two miles macadamized. A survey was also made for a new road between Soufriere and Micond, across the island, which would save some 7 miles as compared with the existing route, besides opening up new country.

12. Much has also been done in draining and "round ridging" large portions of the roads which in some places have hitherto been simple mud-paths.

Legislation.

13. Four Ordinances were passed by the Legislative Council and received the assent of His Excellency the Governor in Chief during the year, the two principal being, one for extending the limits of the town of Castries with a view to bringing under the control of the Town Board certain lots which bordered on the town, and which from their unsanitary condition contributed towards its unhealthiness, and the other for regulating the traffic on the jetties recently erected at certain of the out towns.

Councils and Assemblies.

14. Two changes occurred during the year in the constitution of the Councils. In the Executive Council Mr. W. H. Hyndman Jones, was appointed as an additional member, and in the Legislative Council, Mr. T. H. Dix, the magistrate of the second

district, was appointed to an official seat in the place of Mr. H. E. Lynch, the magistrate of the third district, whose resignation had been accepted. ST. LUCIA.

Civil Establishment.

15. The following are the changes which occurred under this head in 1883 :—

Mr. Dix, the Colonial Treasurer, acted as Administrator from January to March, during which period I administered the Government of Grenada, and he again acted for me during the latter part of the year when I went on vacation leave to England. Mr. Garraway, the Auditor of Grenada, and Mr R. P. Cropper, Protector of Immigrants of this island, acted respectively on these occasions as Mr. Dix's locum tenens.

On the third of May Chief Justice Carrington, left for Tobago, having been appointed to administer the Government of that Colony, as Mr. Choppin, the Attorney General of St. Vincent, was appointed to act for him; an arrangement which exists up to the present time.

Mr. W. H. Hyndman Jones returned to the Colony in February from Tobago, where he had been acting as Chief Justice, and resumed his duties as magistrate of the first district. Mr. Mallet Paret, the Colonial Trustee, acted for Mr. Jones during his absence.

In April, Mr. Semper, the Auditor of Accounts, was appointed to act in a similar capacity in the Island of Grenada, and Mr. Mitchell of the Treasury department was selected to act as auditor, Mr. La Corbiniere also of the Treasury department, being appointed to act for Mr. Mitchell, and Mr. Edwards, a supernumerary in the Government office, being appointed to act for Mr. La Corbiniere.

Mr. F. H. Watkins was appointed a revenue officer and landing waiter in the month of January. but was promoted to another appointment in St. Vincent in the following month. Mr. A. E. Lewis from the Government Service of Grenada being appointed in his stead. Mr. Lewis, however, resigned the office in November, and Mr. Francis Ferguson, clerk to the auditor, was nominated as his successor, the vacancy in the Audit Office being filled by the appointment of Mr. C. H. Hunter.

Mr. George Wells, from the Audit Office of Grenada, was appointed a revenue officer in the month of May, and having been dismissed from office in October was succeeded by Mr. S. F. Reece of Barbados.

The only other change in the revenue department was the appointment of Mr. C. F. Gilkes from St. Vincent as a revenue officer and landing waiter in the place of Mr. E. H. Moore, who was transferred to a similar office in that island.

A vacancy having occurred in the second clerkship of the Government Office by the promotion, in November 1882, of Mr. Charles Meagher, Mr. E. D. Laborde, senior clerk to the Auditor,

ST. LUCIA.

and Registrar of Tobago, was appointed to it, and he assumed his duties in the month of February.

The remaining appointments were those of Mr. A. C. Agostine as a surveyor under the Boundaries Settlement Ordinance, and of Mr. Victor Tabone as an Assistant Colonial Surgeon in succession to Dr. Duke who had resigned the office.

Vital Statistics.

16. The total births registered during the year were 1,653, and the deaths 1,180. These are irrespective of still births, which numbered 98. In the previous year these figures were 1,692, 827, and 106 respectively.

17. I regret to notice the high death rate in 1883, which was no less than 2·94 per cent., as against 2·10 in the previous year, the more so as I am unable to account for it in any way, notwithstanding I have consulted the Colonial surgeon and the registrar on the subject. Dr. Dennehy, however, draws my attention to the fact that the death rate is equally distributed over the island, and the registrar points out that in 1874 the death rate was as high as 2·88, whilst that of 1882 was the lowest on record. Considering the fact, however, that St. Lucia has been free from any epidemic during the year, I cannot but express my disappointment at not being able satisfactorily to explain this increase in the mortality. The average of this and the past years, taking an exceptionally good year with a bad one, would be 2·52.

Education.

18. An Ordinance was introduced and passed in the Legislative Council providing for the establishment of Government Schools on the undenominational system, but it has not yet received the assent of his Excellency the Governor in Chief.

19. The attendance at the existing schools compares favourably with previous years, though the numbers attending represent but a small proportion of the juvenile population of the island.

20. The following comparative statement is compiled from the returns which have been furnished from the various schools :—

	No. of scholars on Rolls.						Average attendance.	
	1882.			1883.			1882.	1883.
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.		
Mico schools -	908	306	1,214	1,045	324	1,369	705·1	719·2
Roman Catholic schools - -	507	990	1,497	441	972	1,413	814·86	824·8

Imports and Exports.

21. The Imports show an increase on previous years in most respects. Bread stuffs, spirits (chiefly absinthe and whiskey), and wines show, however, a slight decrease. On the other hand the importation of grain, salt fish, preserved provisions and other articles of food, cotton goods, tobacco, oils, earthenware, hardware, leather, soap, &c., were considerably in excess of 1882. The following is a summary of the chief articles imported during 1883, as compared with 1881 and 1882.

Articles.	1881.	1882.	1883.
	£	£	£
Flour	2,494	1,857	1,768
Grains (of all kinds)	738	615	735
Fish, salted	1,180	1,479	1,733
Preserved provisions, including hams, &c.	864	758	983
Other articles of food	1,394	1,603	2,069
Cotton goods	2,082	3,018	3,169
Tobacco	2,855	3,028	3,148
Oils	428	800	936
Earthenware	73	72	127
Hardware	294	264	502
Leather	278	426	543
Soap	165	248	346
Spirits	1,938	1,646	1,294
Lumber	535	791	647

21. (*a.*) The exports from St. Lucia consist principally of sugar, molasses, cocoa, and logwood, and were as under in the last three years :—

——	1881.	1882.	1883.
Sugar :—			
Muscovado - Lbs.	9,481,250	12,974,500	13,812,200
Usine - „	1,836,800	3,839,360	3,278,156*
Molasses - Galls.	226,800	304,500	209,250
Cocoa - Lbs.	524,612	302,262	307,120
Logwood - Tons	2,046	684	714

* Decrease attributed to fact that central factory was unable to take off its whole crop.

22. The decrease shown in the above table in the export of "cocoa" in 1882 and 1883 as compared with 1881 is accounted for by the fact that in the former year merchants in this island

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made large purchases of cocoa from other colonies for exportation, but inasmuch as there was no export duty levied in this Colony on cocoa, all such exportations passed out as "products of the Colony."

Shipping.

23. The following tables show the number of vessels which arrived and cleared at the port of Castries in the two past years :—

		Entered.			Cleared.		
		No.	Tons.	Crews.	No.	Tons.	Crews.
1882	Sailing Vessels	220	20,933	1,363	220	21,364	1,382
	Steam Vessels	139	18,954	5,560	138	180,048	5,520
1883	Sailing Vessels	230	17,759	1,390	222	17,720	1,371
	Steam Vessels	195	201,178	7,654	196	202,031	7,704

24. The large increase in the number of steamers is accounted for by St. Lucia being better known as a coaling station. It is now a port of call for the intercolonial and cargo steamers of the Royal Mail Company, the French Mail, the "Quebec," "Scrutton," "Hoults," and "Atlantic and West India" lines of steamers, and is also resorted to as a coaling station by ships of the United States Navy.

Agriculture.

25. The area of cultivation has been somewhat extended, and greater attention has recently been paid to fertilization, much, however, remains to be done, but it can scarcely be expected that this important subject, which hitherto has received so little attention will immediately be recognized.

26. The question of squatting, a very important one in the interests of the Colony, has not been lost sight of, and the Agricultural Society, recently established, has taken the matter in hand.

27. I have much pleasure in drawing attention to the success which attended the first meeting, at Castries, of the "St. Lucia Agricultural Society," the exhibits at which were very creditable to the Colony. A sum of 90*l.* was awarded in prizes for live stock, vegetable and other products, and articles of native manufacture, and the exhibition did credit to those who took over its management as well as to the exhibitors.

28. It is contemplated holding another meeting at "Soufriere," at the southern end of the Island, in the present year, when I am sure the results will equal, if they do not excel, those at Castries.

29. I am happy to be able to state that the cocoa cultivation in this island is considerably on the increase. Tobacco has been tried by Mr. Meynier in the second district, and the results, he informs me, have been most satisfactory, his tobacco selling readily at 1*s.* per pound. He purposes extending its cultivation, as he finds it pays better than anything else, and I trust his example will be speedily followed by others, as with the recent low price of sugar, and the rapidly extending cultivation of beet for its manufacture, with which our planters have to compete, I much fear that unless attention be turned to other industries in conjunction with cane growing, the West Indian planters will find to their cost, when too late, the error they have made.

Gaols and Prisoners.

30. The committals in the past year showed a decrease of 46 as compared with those in 1882: the figures being 348 and 394 respectively.

31. The health of the prisoners was satisfactory, and no deaths occurred in the prison during the year.

Criminal Statistics.

32. As compared with 1882, the returns show an increase of convictions for "offences against the person" of 41, and for "other offences" of 122. On the other hand, however, I am pleased to notice a marked diminution in the convictions for "prædial larceny," and for "other offences against property," which is attributable to the salutary effect produced by the magistrates being now empowered to inflict peremptory imprisonment, without the option of a fine, in cases of "prædial larceny," as suggested by the Secretary of State.

33. In 1880, the convictions for prædial larceny were 84, as against 28 in 1881 (the year in which the amending Ordinance providing "peremptory imprisonment" was proclaimed), and 23 in the year under report.

ST. LUCIA

34. Annexed is a comparative table giving the criminal statistics for the past two years :—

	1882.	1883.
Number of persons apprehended - -	2,141	2,243
Number of Summary Convictions.		
Offences against the person - - -	234	275
Prædial larceny - - -	28	23
Offences against property other than prædial larceny - - - - -	101	59
Other offences - - - - -	730	852
Convictions in the Superior Courts.		
Offences against the person - - -	6	8
Prædial larceny - - - -	—	—
Offences against property other than prædial larceny - - - - -	11	13
Other offences - - - - -	2	1
Number of Persons acquitted.		
In the inferior courts - -	1,019	1,104
In the superior courts - - -	9	10

Hospitals.

35. *General Hospital.*—The information regarding this hospital is not as full as it might be in the annual report, owing to the destruction of all the books and records in the fire, which destroyed that building at 4 a.m. on the 3rd of January in the current year.

36. This hospital was built of wood on stone foundations, and in the one to be erected in its stead it is proposed as far as possible to use concrete and iron.

37. At the time of the fire, which was supposed to be the work of incendiaries (though the charge could not be brought home to them), there were 81 patients, all of whom were providentially saved; and to the officers of the establishment I consider great praise is owing for ensuring the safety of the inmates.

38. Extra accommodation will be necessary in the new hospital to meet the requirements of an increasing population.

39. *District Hospitals.*—The district hospitals of Soufriere, Vieux Fort, and Dennery, (the last being recently built), were invaluable to the districts generally, besides proving valuable auxiliaries to the one at Castries.

40. I am glad to be able to bear testimony to the efficient and able manner in which they were conducted.

Concluding remarks.

41. In the report on the Blue Book for 1882, my locum tenens Mr. Dix, drew attention to the introduction of Martinique capital

into the island, and the establishment of central factories at "Dennery" on the north-east, and at "Roseau" on the west coast of the island. Since then two other factories have been started, and are in process of construction at "Vieux Fort" on the south-eastern extremity of the Colony, and at "Choc," some 4 miles distant from Castries.

42. I am inclined to think, however, that there will be a lull in this competition for the acquisition of land in St. Lucia, pending the result to be achieved by the factories at present in existence or in course of construction.

43. The price of land, which on the advent of these Martiniquan capitalists rose to an abnormal figure, is at the present time maintained by proprietors, in the hope, I presume, that other and similar schemes may be floated. It is more than probable, however, that until the factories prove that they can be worked to advantage, which I do not myself doubt, capitalists will withhold for the present from investing further money.

44. Whilst drawing attention to the steady progress of the Colony, the fact must not be lost sight of that the continuance of its prosperity will largely depend upon sufficient labour being introduced; and the difficulty at present experienced in obtaining coolies points to a not far distant period of retrogression, not only in respect of St. Lucia, but with regard to the majority of the West Indian Islands, if immediate and active measures be not taken to ensure a regular supply of field labourers.

45. The steady flow of emigrants to Panama for a time has also increased the cost and difficulty of obtaining labour, though I am glad to say that the majority have not been of the agricultural labouring class, the emigration being chiefly confined to artisans.

46. I am happy, however, to be able to add that every steamer brings back some 40 or 50, who report most unfavourably of the climate, and state that many St. Lucians have died from its deadly effects. I do not think, therefore, that any further exodus is to be feared.

47. Dearth of labour means not merely stagnation of cultivation but ruination to the majority of planters, who, not being as a rule men of capital, will be unable to bear up against any serious reverse, and that such must be the case is self apparent, where labour is insufficient to bring land into cultivation, let alone taking off the crops when arrived at maturity.

48. So important is this labour question in my humble opinion that, if the Royal Commission, which lately visited the West Indies has not considered and dealt with it, I would urge the necessity of a special commission being appointed to investigate and determine what steps it would be desirable to take to meet this pressing want in this and other West Indian Islands.

ST. LUCIA.

49. It might well be considered how far the introduction of Chinese labour would be beneficial, failing an annual supply of coolies being ensured, for labour must be got at any price if we do not wish to see a total collapse of the sugar industry in many of the smaller islands similarly situated to ourselves. I would suggest that any such introduction of Chinese should take place directly and immediately under the auspices of the Colonial Office, as I am convinced that the smaller islands would suffer, in respect to obtaining labour, as they have done in the Indian market, if brought into competition with the larger colonies of British Guiana, Jamaica, Trinidad, &c., and this is proved by the fact that the larger colonies have at least obtained some coolies, whilst St. Lucia, though annually requisitioning for them, has received none since March 1881, and the prospects for 1884 do not appear much brighter. I am given further to understand that Trinidad has already received one ship load this year, whilst up to the present moment we have not even heard of any probability of success on the part of Dr. Stuart, our agent, specially selected as such by the Colonial Office.

50. The central sugar factory, in which the Colony is interested to the extent of 32,000*l.*, promises eventually to be a financial success. It has had many difficulties with which to contend, but under its present able manager, Mr. Rousselot, it has fairly started on what I believe will prove a prosperous career. The cultivation has been largely extended, the cost of manufacture of sugar considerably diminished by economy being more rigidly studied than heretofore; and the company, by purchasing and clearing Crown lands, are guarding themselves against any unwillingness on the part of the present contributors of canes to renew their contracts on the termination of the existing ones in 1885.

51. The out-put, which was 1,344 tons of sugar last year, promises to be about 2,000 tons in the present one.

52. Sir John Coode's scheme for harbour improvements is still under consideration, I will therefore only reiterate here what I have already stated in various despatches, that, if carried out, the port of St. Lucia will become as well known as hitherto it has been unrecognized.

53. It appears strange to me how, with such a harbour, St. Lucia has for so many years been content to make no effort to induce the owners of the large steamers and other vessels which make St. Thomas, a Danish island, their port of call and transshipping station, alive to some of the advantages possessed by St. Lucia.

54. St. Lucia affords facilities for coaling offered by no other island, Jamaica excepted, and with improved harbour accommodation to be accomplished by dredging, and a more extensive system of wharfage, Castries harbour will become second only to that of Kingston, Jamaica.

55. In conclusion, I trust that in the Blue Book of this Colony for 1884 the progress made in carrying out Sir John Coode's scheme may bear a prominent place.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ROGER TUCKFIELD GOLDSWORTHY,
Administrator.

His Excellency
Governor Robinson, C.M.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

ANTIGUA.

No. 10.

Governor SIR C. C. LEES, K.C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the EARL of DERBY.

Government House, Antigua,
June 5, 1884.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the Blue Book of Antigua for the year 1883, with a report thereon by the Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. C. LEES,
Governor.

The Right Hon.
the Earl of Derby,
&c. &c.

REPORT on the ANTIGUA BLUE BOOK of 1883.

Finance.

Revenue.	Expenditure.
44,055*l.* 2*s.* 11*d.*	43,184*l.* 18*s.* 0*d.*

The estimates for 1883 showed a deficiency of 2,037*l.* The actual revenue exceeded the estimate by 4,075*l.*, the actual expenditure exceeding the estimate by 1,217*l.*, the difference, 2,858*l.*, more than covering the deficiency exhibited by the estimates. The excess of revenue beyond the estimate was principally under the heads of customs duties and excise.

The cash balance standing to the credit of the Presidency on the 31st December 1883 was 2,592*l.* 2*s.* 7*d.*, the balance in the hands of the crown agents 594*l.* 8*s.* 3*d.*

Trade.

	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
1881 - - -	151,883	178,581
1882 - - -	179,717	270,845
1883 - - -	183,636	222,676

ANTIGUA.

There entered during the year 537 British and 61 Foreign sailing vessels, total tonnage, 26,237 tons; and 149 British and four Foreign steam vessels, total tonnage 155,219 tons. Of the sugar crop 12,402 hogsheads, 8,333 hogsheads or two thirds went to the United States. In 1882, of a crop of 15,103 hogsheads, one half was shipped to the States.

Agriculture.

The sugar crop of 1883 was an average one, but prices had not then declined to the present low point. With reference to the agriculture of this Island, at present limited to the cultivation of the sugar cane, it may be said that it is carried on with diligence and energy, and much good has resulted from the tendency of events to throw the ownership of property into the hands of resident experienced and active planters, or of absentees who have the means and the courage to prosecute the industry of planting and sugar-making with the liberality and spirit necessary to succeed.

Labour.

Tropical planting, like all other industries, has at times its labour difficulty, the successful dealing with which here, as elsewhere, depends much on the tact and common sense of the employer, whose patience it must be admitted is often sorely tried by the childish caprice and thoughtless indolence of the labourer of African descent, who, however, in many points of disposition and character, compares favourably with the labouring class in more northern countries.

In 1882 there were landed here 275 Chinese shipped from Hong Kong. Thirty died during the passage, and two in harbour on arrival, the remaining 78 of the 385 originally engaged, and whose passage was paid, absconded in China after engagement. Those who arrived here cost 27*l.* 15*s.* 10*d.* a head for passage money, &c. A large proportion were not agricultural labourers. Two have been hanged for murdering a manager, and fifteen have been sentenced in a batch to long terms of imprisonment with hard labour for committing an atrocious crime.

Of the number imported a large proportion have settled down on various estates to which they were allotted and are proving to be steady and satisfactory labourers.

The cost of bringing these people from China was paid by a Special Immigration Fund, the accumulation of an export duty on sugar and rum. They are not indentured, but on arrival entered into engagements with the planters who desired to employ them.

Legislation.

In 1883 eleven Acts were passed by the Legislative Council of Antigua. Amongst them were, "An Act for preventing the "mischiefs arising from the printing and publishing newspapers "and papers of a like nature by persons not known;" "An Act to "provide public nurseries for infants and young children;" and

" An Act to provide for the holding of coroners inquests on the " bodies of infants dying under the age of one year."

The General Legislative Council of the Leeward Islands met in December, and passed seven Acts, the most important of which were " An Act to amend the law relating to circuits and the " holding of Circuit Courts in this Colony ;" " An Act to amend the " 'Jury Laws Consolidation Act' No. 12 of 1878 ;" and " An Act " to amend the Summary Jurisdiction Act, 1874."

Education.

The Elementary Schools Act, Leeward Islands, of 1874 continues to work satisfactorily, although it is to be remarked that in Antigua, as in all the other Presidencies, with the exception of Nevis, the average daily attendance was somewhat less in 1883 than in 1882. On this subject the Inspector of Schools in his Report for 1883 states: " Several reasons may be adduced as " causes for this almost general decrease in the daily average " attendance.

" 1. The prevalence of sickness.

" 2. The great demand for juvenile labourers.

" 3. The indifference of many parents and guardians with " regard to the education of their children, and their selfish " anxiety to secure their small weekly wages.

" 4. The striking off the Government List of several hopelessly " bad and moribund schools.

" 5. Many teachers make it their chief object not to increase the " daily average attendance, but to advance their schools from a " lower to a higher class. Still it may be noted that the daily " average attendance has increased (in the Leeward Islands) " from 4,935 in 1875 to 6,852 in 1883, or 38 per cent."

On reason No. 3 given by the Inspector for the recent falling off in the number of children attending school, I would suggest that it is not always selfish anxiety to secure the wages earned by the children that causes their parents to keep them from school, but it is often the necessity labourers and handicraftsmen having several children find themselves under, of adding to their own moderate gains the earnings of the elder children to provide food and clothing for the family.

Vital Statistics.

The Report of the Registrar-General shows an improvement in 1883 as compared with 1882.

Births Registered.

1882 - - - - -	1,406
1883 - - - - -	1,510

Deaths Registered.

1882 - - - - -	1,465
1883 - - - - -	1,188

ANTIGUA.

The birth rate per 1,000 of the population was in 1883, exclusive of still-births, 38·5. The death rate per 1,000, exclusive of still-births, 30·1.

The per-centage of infant mortality was, however, in 1883 the same as in 1882. The number of marriages registered was somewhat above that of 1882, but 68·4 per cent. of the children born during the year were illegitimate.

The great and pressing need of the people throughout this Island is a supply of good water, what they are now compelled to drink they get principally from polluted ponds. Here and there iron tanks have been placed to receive the water from the roofs of country churches and chapels. It is desirable that much more should be done in this way, and for this object there should be, as far as the financial means of the local government will permit, immediate and liberal expenditure.

(Signed) NEALE PORTER,
Colonial Secretary of the
Leeward Islands.

VIRGIN ISLANDS.

VIRGIN ISLANDS.

No. 11.

Governor SIR C. C. LEES, K.C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY, K.G.

Government House, Antigua,
July 7, 1884.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the Blue Book of the Virgin Islands for the year 1883, with the Acting President's report thereon.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. C. LEES,
Governor

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Derby,
&c. &c.

Government Office, Tortola,
June 20, 1884.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith to his Excellency the Governor the Blue Book for this Presidency for the year 1883, and to submit the following report thereon.

Revenue.

The revenue was in excess of that of the preceding year by 65*l.* 4*s.* 11*d.*, and this increase is occasioned principally by the licenses on boats becoming due at the same time in the year,

instead of, as formerly, falling in at irregular periods, and also to increased entries inwards at the Customs department, owing to the great check to smuggling from the employment of a revenue vessel.

Expenditure.

Under this head there is an increase of 112*l.* 15*s.* 10*d.* over that of 1882, but no addition whatever was made to the ordinary expenditure of the Presidency, and it is in fact much less than that of the former year; the excess appearing on the face of the returns is occasioned by the payment, in 1883, of a large amount of arrears (338*l.* 18*s.* 0*d.*) of former years.

Legislation.

The only Ordinances passed during the year were the usual Appropriation Ordinances, and an Ordinance (which has since been disallowed by Her Majesty) for creating a port of entry at Virgen Gorda.

Imports and Exports.

The income derived from import duties appears to have been gradually increasing since 1881, and is, as I before remarked, attributable to the employment of a special revenue vessel, which is also employed in the conveyance of the mails between this Presidency and St. Thomas.

Criminal Statistics.

Crime is almost unknown in this Presidency. During the year to which this report refers there were only two convictions before the Supreme Court, one for rape and the other for attempting to set fire to a thatched hut; the total number for trial being only three.

General Remarks.

Whilst remarking on the almost total absence of crime amongst the people of this Presidency, I think it my duty at the same time to report the general disregard to the laws of morality existing here; vice of nearly every description, not however coming within the reach of the law, prevails amongst the people, and as far as decency and morality are concerned the people of the Virgin Islands seem to be retrograding. One or two properties have lately been purchased by strangers, and it is to be hoped that when these are worked, and some new blood is introduced amongst the inhabitants, there may be, owing to new associations, a change for the better.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. H. DYETT.

The Hon.
The Colonial Secretary,
&c. &c. &c.

DOMINICA.

DOMINICA.

No. 12.

Governor SIR C. C. LEES, K.C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY.

Government House, Antigua,
July 7, 1884.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the Blue Book of Dominica for the year 1883, with the Acting President's report thereon.

The Acting President's attention has been directed to the delay in the transmission of the Blue Book, and care will be taken that it shall be forwarded at an earlier date in future.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. C. LEES,
Governor.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Derby,
&c. &c.

REPORT on the DOMINICA BLUE BOOK of 1883.

Taxes, Duties, &c.

1. That part of an Act dated 6th December 1881, which imposed an additional rate of 10 per centum on all taxes and duties for the two years ending 31st December 1883 was repealed from and after the 30th June 1883 by an Act of of this Presidency dated 1st March 1883, and the tax ceased to be collected accordingly after the date named.

2. Under the Road Act of September 1882, which came into operation during the past year, the road tax was made leviable only on the male inhabitants of the Island and by the exemption of the female portion of the population the receipts were and will be henceforth diminished to about one half of their former amount.

3. There were no other changes in the ordinary sources of revenue.

Revenue and Expenditure.

4. The total revenue of the year amounted to 24,614*l.* 4*s.* 3½*d.*, of which 19,842*l.* 15*s.* 10*d.* was received from fixed and ordinary sources including the two local taxes, viz. :—The Roseau Pier dues

and the house rate in Roseau assessed and levied by the commissioners for the maintenance of the Roseau Water Works.

6. During the last quarter of the year a sum of 1,200*l.* was appropriated by legislative enactment from the Roseau River Embankment fund to meet extraordinary expenditure after the hurricane on the 4th September.

6. That disaster as it occurred so late in the year, did not prejudicially affect the revenue of 1883, but may be expected to materially reduce that of 1884.

7. Under almost all heads of Revenue the receipts of 1883 were slightly in excess of those of 1882.

8. Tonnage dues receipts however, fell off to the extent of 136*l.* owing to the freight as well as the passenger traffic having passed into the hands of steam-ship companies and the exemption of steam ships from payment of tonnage dues on condition of their carrying mails to any of the ports for which they are bound.

9. The receipts from the road tax were reduced from 1,844*l.* in the year 1882 to 946*l.* in 1883, or nearly by one half, the causes of the reduction being principally the exemption of females from payment, but partly also the emigration of many people of the labouring class.

10. The excise duty on rum and the sale of liquor licenses produced together the sum of 3,293*l.* exceeding the corresponding receipts for 1882 by 336*l.*

11. The revenue derived from import duties exceeded that of 1882 by 535*l.* 13*s.* 11*d.*, but that is not an indication of increased trade but it is owing to the temporarily increased importation of food stuffs to supply deficiencies in the quantity of island produce subsequent to the destruction of the provision grounds in September.

12. Export duties for the year had been already received and the revenue from that source was not affected.

13. The expenditure upon the various services of the year 1883 reached a sum total of 21,701*l.*, being 2,295*l.* in excess of that of the previous year 1882.

14. Of this excessive expenditure an amount of 1,315*l.* was spent upon the most urgent of the repairs to public buildings and to the roads of the island, which were rendered necessary by the hurricane of September, and was partially provided for by the appropriation of 1,200*l.* standing to the credit of the Roseau River Embankment fund.

Imports and Exports.

15. Total value of Imports in 1883 71,329*l.* 12*s.* 0½*d.*; total value of exports in 1883 63,284*l.* 4*s.* 6½*d.* Both the imports and exports of the year as compared with those of 1882 show a marked decline.

DOMINICA.

16. The following is a tabular statement of the total value in sterling of the imports and exports for 1882 and 1883 respectively, omitting fractions :—

Year.	Imports from				Exports to			
	United Kingdom.	British Countries	Foreign Countries.	Total.	United Kingdom.	British Countries.	Foreign Countries	Total.
1882 - -	33,689	23,958	14,679	72,326	42,650	2,920	19,881	5,451
1883 - -	30,861	21,512	18,955	71,328	34,955	2,700	25,628	63,283

17. The principal food stuffs imported consist, as in former years, of salt meat, dried fish, flour, lard, olive oil, and rice.

18. Flour, lard, and salted provisions are all American, either imported direct or through wholesale mercantile firms in Barbados, rice alone being supplied from the United Kingdom.

19. About two thirds of the wine consumed consists of light Bordeaux wines imported from Martinique, which colony also furnishes the supply of olive oil.

20. Malt liquors, spirits, and almost the whole supply of cotton and woollen goods, hardware and machinery comes from the United Kingdom.

21. The following comparative statement shows the quantities of the above mentioned imports for the last three years respectively.

Quantities expressed by Value in Sterling.

Imports.	1881.	1882.	1883.
	£	£	£
Beef and pork - - -	1,096	1,378	1,747
Dried fish - - -	4,842	4,322	4,772
Wheaten flour - - -	8,817	7,932	7,850
Lard - - - -	757	737	692
Olive oil - - -	1,741	1,904	2,021
Rice - - - -	814	445	778
Malt liquors - - -	832	870	849
Spirits - - - -	1,083	1,253	956
Wines - - - -	1,324	1,271	1,157
Boots and shoes - -	1,325	1,610	1,386
Cotton and woollen goods and millinery - - -	14,643	18,917	17,574
Hardware - - -	1,840	2,646	2,238

22. The total estimated value of the sugar exported was 39,487*l.* 15*s.* and the proportionate value of the export to each of the undermentioned countries was as follows:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
To the United Kingdom -	27,505	15	0
To the United States - -	11,927	10	0
To West Indians Islands - -	54	10	0

23. The export of sugar was not far below the average, but the exports of all other descriptions of colonial produce have fallen off in the last three years, as may be seen from the following comparative table.

24. The small fruit trade with America, is however increasing in a manner which suggests its capability for great development in more enterprising hands.

25. Comparative table showing the principal articles of colonial produce exported during the years from 1881 to 1883 inclusive and the quantities of each expressed by their value in sterling.

Produce exported.	1881.	1882.	1883.
	£	£	£
Sugar - - - -	31,262	41,577	39,487
Molasses - - -	1,528	2,897	2,919
Lime juice - - -	6,386	5,081	4,619
Coffee - - -	167	321	201
Cocoa - - - -	12,623	6,374	7,889
Fruit - - - -	128	607	1,523
Bay leaves - - -	1,162	3,090	526
Bay oil - - -	—	126	310
Firewood - - -	500	406	469

26. No rum is exported, the price obtainable from purchasers in Dominica being higher than the price of Dominica rum in the London Market.

27. Articles of foreign produce and manufacture were exported to the neighbouring French Islands to the value of 4,224*l.*:—

	£
Tobacco (leaf) - - - -	3,081
Tobacco manufactured - - -	314
Kerosine Oil - - - -	724
Gin - - - - -	105

Population.

28. The following abstract of births, deaths, and marriages for 1883, and comparative summary of births, deaths, and marriages

DOMINICA.

for the years 1882 and 1883 has been compiled by the Registrar General.

General Abstract of the Number of Births, Deaths, and Marriages in the Presidency of Dominica during the Year 1883.

Towns and Parishes.	Births.							Deaths.			Number of Marriages.
	Legitimate.			Illegitimate.			Totals.				
	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.		Males.	Females.	Totals.	
Roseau	20	19	39	31	49	80	119	62	67	129	None registered.
St. George	8	3	11	6	4	10	21	12	9	21	
St. Paul	11	9	20	13	13	26	46	10	19	29	
St. Luke	6	4	10	2	3	5	15	2	4	6	
St. Joseph	16	20	36	32	18	50	86	43	27	70	
St. Peter	14	13	27	8	11	19	46	24	21	45	Nil.
St. John	11	18	29	23	20	43	72	25	25	50	Nil.
St. Andrew	32	17	49	37	31	68	117	31	27	58	4
St. David	14	12	26	11	9	20	46	15	8	23	3
St. Patrick	37	39	76	35	29	64	140	24	28	52	13
St. Mark	8	16	24	11	10	21	45	11	14	25	5
	177	170	347	209	197	406	753	259	249	508	25

Comparative Summary of Births, Deaths, and Marriages for the Years 1882 *and* 1883, *showing the Increase and Decrease under each head for the Year* 1883.

Towns and Parishes.	Births.			
	1883.	1883.	Increase.	Decrease.
Roseau	136	119	—	17
St. George	24	21	—	3
St. Paul	28	46	18	—
St. Luke	7	15	8	—
St. Joseph	69	86	17	—
St. Peter	41	46	5	—
St. John	63	72	9	—
St. Andrew	118	117	—	1
St. David	37	46	9	—
St. Patrick	122	140	18	—
St. Mark	31	45	14	—
	676	753	98	21
	Increase of births 1883, 77.			

Towns and Parishes.	Deaths.			
	1882.	1883.	Increase.	Decrease.
Roseau - - - -	128	129	1	—
St. George - - -	42	21	—	21
St. Paul - - - -	23	29	6	—
St. Luke - - - -	1	6	5	—
St. Joseph - - -	29	70	41	—
St. Peter - - - -	34	45	11	—
St. John - - - -	44	50	6	—
St. Andrew - - -	78	58	—	20
St. David - - - -	17	23	6	—
St. Patrick - - -	62	52	—	10
St. Mark - - - -	22	25	3	—
	480	508	79	51
	Increase of deaths 1883, 28.			

(*continued*).

Towns and Parishes.	Marriages.			
	1882.	1883.	Increase.	Decrease.
Roseau - - - -	24	33	9	—
St. George - - -				
St. Paul - - - -	7	6	—	1
St. Luke - - - -	—	11	11	—
St. Joseph - - -	—	4	4	—
St. Peter - - - -	—	—	—	—
St. John - - - -	4	—	—	4
St. Andrew - - -	1	4	3	—
St. David - - - -	2	3	1	—
St. Patrick - - -	14	13	—	1
St. Mark - - - -	1	5	4	—
	53	79	32	6
	Increase of marriages 1883, 26.			

General Remarks.

29. The event which distinguished the year 1883 and which has left upon its records the sinister impress of unforeseen disaster was the hurricane which occurred on the night of the 4th September.

30. This island lay in the track of the storm (which passed directly over it) and experienced its full force.

31. During the previous afternoon there had been none of those premonitory indications of an atmospheric character which sometimes serve as a timely notice of the coming convulsion, and the

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population of Dominica had so long enjoyed an immunity from similar visitations (the last hurricane having taken place so long ago as 1834) that it was almost generally believed that the island was exceptionally favoured in this respect.

32. The precautions usually taken at the commencement of the hurricane season of strengthening bars and shutters and fastenings of every description had without doubt been neglected for years by the great majority of householders, and the houses suffered more than usual damage in consequence.

33. The gale commenced in the north east very suddenly at about 10.30 p.m., but the most destructive effects were not felt until the wind veered to the south-west, after an ominous lull of twenty minutes duration which announced the passing of the centre of the cyclone.

34. At 3 a.m. the violence of the storm had abated, and at early dawn the inhabitants were able to leave their houses and gaze upon the extraordinary scene of desolation which was then presented to their view.

35. The work of clearing the streets of Roseau from fallen trees and other débris was at once proceeded with, and throughout the island the roads had to be rendered passable by the digging out of landslips and the removal of forest trees and pieces of rock.

36. Almost all the public buildings were damaged, and three government school houses, one at Roseau and two in the country districts, were destroyed.

37. The pier and adjacent wharf have required repairs to be executed at a cost of 512*l.*

38. The Government House at Roseau and outbuildings suffered damage estimated at 195*l.*, only partially repaired at this date.

39. The former infantry barracks at Morne Bruce now used as Poorhouse and Yaws Hospital and the Officers' quarters, used as a Government residence, were all exposed to the utmost fury of the gale and were much damaged. The most essential of the repairs in that quarter have been effected at a cost of 219*l.*

40. The total expenditure upon the roads, works, and buildings consequent upon the damages of the hurricane up to the present may be stated to have amounted to 1,315*l.*, but only works of the most pressing nature have been undertaken.

41. The losses of private property have been considerable, and the demolition, partial or complete, of the poorer class of tenements in town and country occasioned wide-spread distress.

42. It was, however, from the ravages wrought upon growing crops, upon plantations of lime, cocoa and coffee and upon the provision grounds of the peasantry that the heaviest and most serious losses befel.

43. All the agricultural classes, whether labouring for wages on the estates or as peasant proprietors, are accustomed to depend largely for their subsistence upon crops of plantains and yams, and especially upon the farine made from the Cassava or Manoic.

44. By the uprooting of the trees and the washing away of the ground crops these unfortunate people found themselves suddenly deprived of their chief means of subsistence and a period of severe trial and privation at once set in, which is, even at this date, far from being happily tided over.

45. Generous subscriptions were received from the Colony of Barbados from the other Islands of the Leeward Group and from various other sources, public and private, and a Relief Committee was appointed to direct the distribution of money and food.

46. Dr. Nicholls, as Honorary Secretary to the Board, contributed in a principal degree to the prudent and successful management of the means placed at their disposal.

47. Many persons would have preferred to see this charitable fund scattered broad-cast amongst the applicants for relief without delay and therefore without discrimination, but the committee having a keener sense of responsibility to the donors found themselves obliged to adopt more regular although slower methods.

48. The fund reached a sum total of 1,223*l.* 2*s.* 4*d.*, and the committee relieved 1,170 persons with small grants of money ranging in amount from 5*s.* up to 3*l.* and distributed or sold at cost price food imported from Barbados to the value of 269*l.* 10*s.* 5*d.* principally on the Windward Coast and by the agency of sub-committees.

49. A more serious because a more lasting injury to the vital interests of this agricultural Colony is foreshadowed in the alarming proportions which emigration has assumed in the past year, and which, if it continues to be maintained unabated as at present, threatens to drain the island of the best of its working men.

50. It has doubtless been increased by the general distress, and a return to the ordinary conditions of food supply when ground crops are again abundant may act as a temporary check.

51. But this movement has been going on in a more or less marked degree for the last ten years, and there are probably several causes which acting together or separately upon individuals and with combined effect upon the masses have tended and do now tend to produce it.

52. The profits of labourers resulting from high wages and sometimes also from illicit gains at the gold mines of Venezuela (after the first impulse to emigration had been given by the return home of two or three persons bringing considerable sums from the mines), became soon after 1874 a bait sufficiently attractive to allure numbers annually from their native island.

53. At first the emigrants were only those who had the means to pay for their passages viâ Trinidad to the Continent, as the Venezuelan mining companies made no attempt to gain recruits for their labour market by establishing agencies in the West Indian Islands.

54. But since the late discovery of gold mines at Cayenne in the French Colony of Guiana all able-bodied labourers have been able to obtain passages on credit, and a continuous stream of

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emigration has been flowing thither during the past eighteen months.

55. The negro inhabitants of Dominica are French in their language and between Martinique and Dominica communication is frequent and easy, and once arrived at the former place the labourer is either engaged by agents of the mining companies and his passage taken for him, or he is offered by the steam ship company's agents a passage on easy terms, payment not being required until after his arrival at Cayenne and engagement with his employers.

56. Free labour contracts at Cayenne are said to be generally for short periods and the French laws to be adequate for the protection of free indentured labourers.

57. No pretext, therefore, exists for attempting to put any check upon the liberty of action which the negroes, as British subjects, naturally possess, except where any contravention of the "Act to regulate the carriage of passengers by sea" is discovered.

58. This Act inflicts a heavy penalty upon any person acting as an emigration agent unless duly accredited from abroad and authorized here by the Governor of the Leeward Islands, but evidence which would suffice for conviction upon such a charge is very difficult to procure, as engagements if made at all before arrival at Cayenne would be conducted generally at Martinique.

59. The following table shows the number of passports issued to persons leaving for French Colonies during the past three years :—

Number of Passports.	Cayenne.	Martinique.
1881 - - - -	3	30
1882 - - - -	18	34
1883 - - - -	166	30

60. There is no doubt that the prospect of considerable gain is the principal determining cause of the emigration which is so much deplored, stimulated into fresh activity at present, by the losses of the last year and the depression in value of all West Indian produce.

61. But other minor causes, whether of a positive or negative character are always operating to swell the tide, which has once set in that direction; such for instance as a general desire amongst the labourers to better their condition, and (without encountering the risks of accepting work at the mines) to enjoy the higher wages offered by the sugar factories of Martinique, called "usines," or the generally higher wages offered for all kinds of labour at Trinidad.

62. Also a feeling of dislike to the road tax, called by the natives "travaux," the only direct tax to which the labourer here is subjected, and the chronic state of stagnation of trade and

industry from which this island has long suffered, and, as a consequence, the wretchedly low rate of wages which unavoidably prevails here.

63. I may also mention another cause, the existence of which is certain, although it is seldom if ever noticed when the labour question is under discussion.

I allude to the contemptuous estimation in which field labour is held since emancipation, as a means of earning a living, the labourers never having learnt, as have those of Barbados, and some other islands, by the stern teaching of necessity to separate it from its former degrading associations and raise it to an honourable position in their thoughts and habits of life.

64. In Dominica there is a numerous body of proprietors of small holdings consisting of a few acres for whom the teeming soil produces vegetable food in abundance, almost without labour, and the forest supplies wood for building their huts.

65. At ordinary times these people are under no necessity, and have no inclination to work for wages, and when the pressure of want is felt (as at present from the ravages of the hurricane of September 1883), they have no savings to fall back upon, and are oblige to emigrate or work upon the estates, generally preferring the former alternative.

66. I quote from a newspaper called the "Dominica Dial," which professes to be the mouthpiece of the lower classes, a few lines in which the existence of this sentiment is fully admitted. They are as follows:—

"A very serious crisis is impending over this island. Owing to the combined effects of the devastation and ruin caused by the hurricane and the low prices of sugar, many peasant proprietors and growers of provisions have been driven to seek work on sugar estates. Only those well acquainted with the sentiments of this section of our labouring population will be able to realise the depths of distress which has forced them to seek temporary relief by submitting to the (to them) indignity of working on a plantation."

67. One may mention, but only to put aside, the arguments which have been brought so prominently forward of late by means of pamphlets and articles and letters in the London journals based on the assertion that the labourers of the West Indies are constantly driven to seek their fortunes elsewhere than in their native islands by the enhanced price of the necessaries of life owing to heavy import duties.

68. Whatever weight such an argument may carry with it when the general bearings of the labour question in the West Indies are under discussion it is absolutely inapplicable to the special circumstances of life in this island and may safely be left out of consideration.

69. The labouring population of Dominica subsist principally upon the produce of their own island which is not taxed, and they do so, not from necessity, but from choice.

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70. The plantain is the favourite food, with yams, eddoes, and potatoes, and the farine of Cassava takes the place in their scale of diet which wheaten flour holds with the natives of other islands.

71. In fact the Dominica labourers will not eat wheaten bread if they can get farine, and will buy the latter at a higher price in the market.

72. It is, unfortunately, much easier to set forth the facts and some of the causes of the present exodus of the labouring classes than to suggest any simple and practical remedy against the decline of agricultural industry, which, being already one of the causes of that exodus, will also be vastly aggravated and hastened by it.

73. The most obvious remedy for excessive emigration of native labourers would be the introduction of foreign labourers,—Indian, Barbadian or Chinese,—in numbers sufficient to supply the demand, but unfortunately the circumstances of the planting interest in Dominica have never been of late years, and still less are they now, prosperous enough to make the importation of foreign labour at the expense of the planters possible even on the smallest scale.

74. Had the proposed establishment by a French company of a sugar factory in Dominica been successfully carried out, the employment of foreign indentured labourers would have been a necessary feature of the scheme, and the impulse given to sugar planting might have led to investment of more capital in the soi and thereafter to the offer of regular and well paid employment to the native agricultural labourers at any rate in some parts of the island.

75. That proposal, however, from its very inception met with decided opposition, the planters having never hesitated in their refusal to make any contracts for the sale of their canes to the usine.

76. But as the building of such a factory is too precarious an investment for capital unless its constant and regular working can be assured by means of such contracts, and as the promoters or directors failed to come to terms with the sugar growers of the island the scheme fell through and apparently without any chance of its revival.

77. It is but fair to mention that there are reasons alleged for the jealousy which the planters have displayed towards the under taking, which, if founded on ascertained facts, would justify their course of action as the natural defence of their personal interests, and would free it from the suspicion of being merely a prejudiced and unreasoning opposal of the general interests of agriculture within the Colony.

78. It is, in fact, stated that the usines of Martinique have monopolised the sugar business in that island, to the exclusion of the owners of the soil; that the companies, having made it impossible for the individual planter to resume the manufacture

of sugar on his own account, have bought his canes at their own price, and absorbed the entire profits, which under equitable conditions would be divided in the proportions previously determined between the producer and manufacturer.

79. It will naturally be asked what ideas the sugar planter of Dominica (the class whose interests are specially affected by the present aspect of the labour question) entertain upon this subject, and it must be confessed that no useful suggestions have emanated from that class either collectively or singly.

80. A question was put by an elective member of the Assembly asking whether the Government is aware of the unsatisfactory state of the labour supply on the plantations of this island, and if so what steps if any it has in contemplation to remedy the deficiency, and it was explained that "Immigration" was the remedy present to the mind of the inquirer and the importation of labourers from Barbados more especially indicated.

81. The Colonial Secretary accordingly furnished statistical information regarding the late importation of Barbadian labourers into Antigua, from which it appeared that the first cost of these labourers upon their landing, including bounties and charges for agents, fees, &c., is :—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
For labourers indentured for one year - - - -	2	13	4
For labourers indentured for two years - - - -	5	6	8
For labourers indentured for three years - - - -	7	0	0

but of the number of 231 recently applied for in Antigua, only seven had been obtained.

82. Without impugning the sincerity of those persons who profess to be waiting for the Government to take the initiative in bringing foreign labour to a failing market, I cannot avoid pointing out that all the intelligent members of the agricultural community in Dominica must be well aware that any expectations of the kind are necessarily doomed to be disappointed.

83. Even if the Imperial Government were to land upon the shores of this island a few hundred Indian or Barbadian labourers with their families, free of expense to the Colonial Government, there is not an estate, at present, worked upon such a liberal scale of expenditure as would permit of the engagement of indentured labourers, which means giving employment all the year round, at regular weekly wages, and at higher rates than have ever been paid to the native labourers.

84. But when it is considered that the first expenses of such an importation of labourers must be borne partly by the planters to whom the labourers are indentured, and partly by a fund raised for the purpose, provision for which fund can only take the shape of an export tax on produce, it is painfully apparent that

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such an additional tax upon a decaying industry, will but tend to hasten its ruin.

85. Notwithstanding the more than commonly depressed condition of trading and agricultural affairs in this island at the present, a condition which must be attributed partly to the discouragement of industry and the actual losses caused by the hurricane of September 1883, and partly to the fact that sugar (which is even now the staple of the island, although comparatively very little capital is invested in its production) has become unsaleable at remunerative prices in the markets of the world, there are some grounds for hoping that the inhabitants of Dominica, being less dependent than those of the other islands upon extraneous aid, may, after a period of difficulty, again enjoy the degree of prosperity to which they have hitherto been accustomed.

86. But no one will be disposed to deny that the kind of prosperity which depends upon the successful development of commerce and agriculture is capable here of very great extension, that the waste lands of this Colony might conceivably be the home of an industrious race of small farmers, and that the population now so thin and scattered might be doubled or trebled in numbers with the greatest advantage to the community in general.

87. And the chief characteristics of the Island of Dominica, its distinctive features of soil, climate and configuration, and the fact that large quantities of good land are still in the possession of the Crown and therefore available for settlement in the manner and at the times which the Imperial Government might select and determine; all these circumstances peculiar to Dominica alone of the Leeward Islands, will, I believe, make it possible for the Government to intervene with the happiest effect in moulding the future of the Island, and converting it into a wealthy and well ordered dependency of the British Crown.

88. The interesting account of the present state and future possibilities of "planting enterprise in the West Indies" given by Mr. Morris, and published with the Blue Book reports for 1882, shows how such an Island as Dominica may become the seat of many important agricultural industries, capable of being worked on a small scale by individual energy, without much aid from capital, but productive in the gross of large returns.

89. It is, I think, the division of the soil into small holdings capable of being worked by the proprietor and his family in preference to the division into large estates worked by borrowed capital or left almost uncultivated, that is indicated as the system likely to obtain the best results and to be the prevailing system throughout this island in the future.

90. The suggestions made by the Royal Commissioners in their report (part IV. paragraph 377 and paragraph 54 of the "Supplementary remarks") have not only a general application to all West Indian Colonies, but bear with especial force upon the conditions here found to exist.

91. All these conditions in fact, seem to point irresistibly to the conclusion that a well considered scheme for the introduction of Portuguese or Maltese families and their settlement upon the Crown lands as peasant proprietors would not only be humane and politic in character but perfectly feasible in the process of execution.

92. The fact that such immigrants of Latin race would be within reach of the ministrations of their own church, their well known superiority to the negro in point of intelligence and capacity for sustained exertion as well as household thrift and decency; the suitability of the land for supporting a peasant proprietary as evinced in its abundant water supply everywhere procurable by springs, brooks, or rivers, its rainfall which forces vegetation into extraordinary activity, and the less burning heat of its shaded valleys and mountain tracks; all these points are favourable to the adoption of such a scheme.

93. Whether the hope expressed by Mr. Morris in the concluding sentence of his paper referred to above, that English capital and enterprise will again seek expansion and fructify in our West Indian Colonies is or is not destined to be realised, it will be well, in face of the many attractions which may continue to divert it for many years to come into other channels, to adopt any prudent measures which seem to offer in the meantime a chance of obtaining some moderate improvements in the social and economical conditions of any particular Island Colony, whether under the auspices of Government or of any public associations.

94. Of such a kind, I think, would be the immigration scheme glanced at in the foregoing remarks, and it is certain that if this Colony is to continue to furnish the revenues necessary to maintain its administration at the high level of the requirements of modern civilization, a more extended trade and agriculture is a necessity.

95. A prosperous and contented class of peasant farmers of European race, able and willing to furnish their quota to the support of the administration and appreciative of the advantages of good police, educational, medical, and charitable institutions, and of the necessity for good roads and bridges; and, by their superior intelligence, being able to comprehend that taxation is a necessary, if disagreeable, means to the ends of good government; such a class would indeed be a most valuable adjunct to the indigenous rural population, and might in time leaven the whole inert mass with their own spirit of wholesome energy and thrift.

96. I may conclude these few remarks by observing, that any person who has made even a cursory examination of such of the earlier records of West Indian colonization as are left, can carcely fail to be impressed by the attempts which were often made by the Governments of the day to establish communities of peasant prorietors, presumably taken fron the English working classes, by such means as the limitation of individual grants over certain areas of Crown lands to blocks of 15 or 20 acres, attempts no doubt sometimes defeated by the inherent difficulties caused by unsuitability of climate and the demoralising effects of slave labour coexisting

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in the same small territories; at other times, and in some places, by the greed of the slave owners and their local rulers.

97. Perhaps no real colonisation by men and women of English race was, in fact, possible in those times of slow communication by land and sea and in a climate so different to that of England, and certainly in modern times when Australia and New Zealand, under the same Government, offer their vast extent and splendid climates to emigrants from the United Kingdom, it would be scarcely practicable and not at all desirable that the attempt should be made to divert any portion of the stream of emigration to the tropical possessions of the Crown.

98. But to races born and bred in the torrid heats of the summer of Southern Europe the climate of the tropics probably offers no insuperable obstacle to their successful emigration to and domestication within West India Colonies, particularly under such conditions as would be found here, in Dominica, and therefore it may be almost considered certain that a community of Maltese or Portuguese agricultural labourers if introduced and settled here, with proper precautions for their maintenance on first arrival, would take root, increase, and multiply and prove a valuable addition to the population of this thinly peopled island, and that not to the eviction but the gradual amelioration of the negro race.

(Signed) J. SPENCER CHURCHILL,
Acting President.

BERMUDA.

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No. 13.

Governor T. L. GALLWEY, R.E., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY.

MY LORD, Bermuda, June 19, 1884.

I HAVE the honour herewith to transmit, for your Lordship's information, the annual Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1883, together with the report of Mr. Cavendish Boyle, the Colonial Secretary, thereon.

I have, &c.
(Signed) T. L. GALLWEY,
Governor and Commander-in-Chief.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Derby, K.G.
&c. &c. &c.

REPORT on the BLUE BOOK for 1883.

No. I.—Finance

1. The total revenue raised during the year was 28,564*l.* 7*s.* 1*d.*, against a total expenditure of 31,056*l.* 12*s.* 7*d.* The public debt

was reduced by 2,500*l.* In looking at the financial condition of the Colony, due regard must be given to the sums held by the Treasury on unexpended balances of money votes from previous years, the majority of which will at the end of the financial year, viz., on June the 30th, lapse, and become merged into the general revenue. Although, therefore, the actual revenue shows a falling off and the expenditure an increase on the previous year's returns, the financial state of the Colony on the 31st December was not unhealthy, and it is estimated that there will be sufficient funds during the current year to meet all the necessary charges of Government, and to leave a small margin.

2. A comparative statement of revenue and expenditure for the years 1882 and 1883 gives the following results:—

Receipts.

	£
1882 - - - - -	29,724
1883 - - - - -	28,564

Expenditure.

	£
1882 - - - - -	29,138
1883 - - - - -	31,056

3. The public debt was reduced as above stated by the sum of 2,500*l.*, or by 500*l.* more than in the previous year, and now amounts to only 5,484*l.* 6*s.* 9*d.* There is invested in 3 per cent. consols a sum of 5,700*l.* for the purpose of erecting a new gaol in the town of Hamilton. The average rate of interest paid on the debt is not more than 4 per cent., and, in the case of the amount due on savings bank deposits, it is only 2½ per cent.

4. The public debt has been gradually and steadily reduced, and it is to be hoped that this reduction will be continued for the next few years until it is extinguished.

5. The revenue and expenditure may be tabulated as follows:—

Revenue.

——	Customs.	Other receipts.	Total.
Revenue - - -	£ 24,102	£ 4,462	£ 28,564

Expenditure.

——	Salaries.	Miscellaneous.	Total.
Expenditure - - -	£ 9,408	£ 21,648	£ 31,056

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6. In comparing the various items of revenue with those of the previous year, it will be seen that the customs ad valorem duty of 5 per cent. yielded a total of 10,296*l.* against 11,280*l.*, showing a decrease of 984*l.*; the amount of duty paid on cigars shows an increase of 40*l.*, and on malt liquor of 26*l.* There is a decrease of 27*l.* in the item of oxen and cows, of 46*l.* in that of rum, and of 14*l.* in tobacco; whilst spirits yield 45*l.* and wine 111*l.* more than was collected during the previous year. The total decrease on customs duties is 848*l.*

In miscellaneous receipts, the postal revenue shows a falling off of 488*l.*, which is accounted for by the arrears due from the Imperial Post Office not having been included in the yearly receipts; and there is also a decrease in the amount of light tolls to the extent of 105*l.* The net decrease in revenue shows a total of 1,160*l.*

In the expenditure an increase of 284*l.* will be found under salaries, the remuneration of some two or three public officers having been raised during the session of 1883. Administration of justice shows an increase of 276*l.*, education 167*l.*, legislature 215*l.*, public library 290*l.*, miscellaneous expenses 767*l.*, extra police 180*l.*, roads 646*l.*, and registration 159*l.*; whilst there is a saving on drawbacks of duty of 325*l.*, 429*l.* on Post Office expenditure, 134*l.* on immigration, and 583*l.* on works and buildings; the net increase on the year's expenditure being 1,918*l.*

A considerable number of these items must, however, be taken as exceptional charges, and not at all likely to recur, and it is believed that the ordinary revenue of the Colony will prove sufficient to meet its ordinary expenditure during the current year.

No. II.—Local Revenue.

7. The local revenue and expenditure give the following results:—

Revenue.

	£
Parochial - - - -	1,439
Corporation of Hamilton - -	2,245
St. George's - - - -	665

Expenditure.

Parochial - - - -	1,721
Corporation of Hamilton - -	2,210
St. George's - - - -	721

The parishes impose a dog tax and issue licenses to sell rum. The corporations obtain their incomes from taxes on wharves and sheds, and from a small inhabited house duty.

8. The revenue raised during 1883 shows an average of 1*l.* 18*s.* per head on the estimated total of 14,667 civilian inhabitants; as, however, the imperial forces, army and navy, pay duty on all articles imported by them other than uniforms and military equipment, it will be seen that this rate must be considerably reduced. In 1881 the rate was estimated at 1*l.* 14*s.* per head, and it would not appear that there has been any noticeable increase on that estimate, whilst the local rates are proportionately light.

9. The amount expended by Great Britain is returned as follows on the undermentioned heads :—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Governor's salary - -	2,199	13	4
Military establishment - -	98,638	0	10
	100,837	14	2

The cost of the naval establishments is not given.

No. III.—Legislation.

10. The Colonial Parliament was dissolved in December 1882, and a fresh election took place during the same month, when 13 new members were returned, the remaining 23 representatives having sat in the former house. During the year the death of Mr. G. W. Hill caused a vacancy in the representation of Southampton and Mr. R. D. Fraser was elected in his place, Mr. Fraser having represented the parish for many years previous to the general election of 1882.

11. The franchise returns show that there were 968 persons registered as qualified electors, and 454 persons qualified to sit in the House of Assembly. These numbers are made up as follows: white voters, 675; coloured, 293; white persons qualified as candidates, 381; coloured, 73.

The number of representatives is exceptionally large, their being 36 in all, or one member for every 407 of the population, or one member to every 27 qualified electors.

12. There were 24 Acts passed by the Legislature during the session, of which the most important were; the Act continuing the provision for the clergy of all denominations for a further period of ten years; the Acts, two in number, which provide for a new compilation of the laws of the Colony; the Act granting an increased annual amount to the Board of Education; the Act subsidising a line of steamers to run direct between Liverpool and one of the southern ports of the United States, and calling at Bermuda; and the Act which amends the criminal law relating to the illegal use of dynamite and other explosive substances.

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No. IV.—Civil Establishments.

13. There were no changes of importance in the Civil Service of the Colony during the year. The death of Mr. G. W. Hill, however, created a vacancy in the office of Official Marine Surveyor, which was filled by the appointment of Captain Henry J. Watlington to the post.

No. V.—Population and Public Health.

14. The Registrar-General's Report shows that the estimated civil population of the Colony for the year ending 31st December 1883 was 14,667, consisting of 5,883 whites and 8,784 coloured.

The death rate was higher than the decennial average, and an average of 26·5 per thousand was shown.

The report calls attention to the large number of deaths amongst children of tender age, and to the neglect of their infant offspring exhibited by the lower portion of the population.

The excess of births over deaths shows a total of 108.

15. The general health of the Colony during the year was good, and the Principal Medical Officer in the Military Department reports that the health of the men under his charge was also good. The average strength of the army in the command was 1,409, with 7 deaths; average strength of women 103, 2 deaths; and of children 198, 6 deaths.

16. The mean maximun temperature during the year was 82·5; the mean minimun 39·3, whilst the barometer shows a range between 30·397 mean highest and 29·734 mean lowest.

No. VI.—Imports and Exports.

17. The total value of imports was 238,700*l.* and of exports 91,103*l.*, which is tabulated thus:—

Imports from

	£
United Kingdom - - -	60,918
British Colonies - - -	31,892
Foreign Countries - - -	145,891

Exports to

	£
United Kingdom - - -	1,394
British Colonies - - -	4,931
Foreign Countries - - -	84,773

As has been explained in previous reports, this large discrepancy is to be accounted for in the fact that the Colony produces little else than early spring vegetables, which are all shipped to the New York market; whilst nearly every article of food and clothing for the entire community has to be imported from abroad.

During the crop season, as the months of March, April, May, and June are called, the price of Bermuda produce fluctuated considerably, and it is doubtful whether the planter and farmer as a rule more than paid his working expenses by his sales. It is a matter of serious importance how the future welfare of this Colony, as an agricultural country, is to be maintained should the present low prices continue, and it is thought by many that better results would be obtained were there less production and were more attention given to the raising of provisions for home consumption.

18. The high price of wages is also a serious consideration, it being most difficult to obtain ordinary labour except at most exorbitant rates. Attempts are made from time to time by individual employers to import labourers and artizans from abroad, but there is no system in these attempts and no general scheme of immigration has ever been carried out.

19. The islands ar rapidly becoming a winter resort for visitors from the neighbouring continent, and numbers of Americans and Canadians pass the cooler months of the year in the Colony.

20. There is no doubt that a fair living could be made by many in raising certain articles of consumption, such as poultry and vegetables, to supply the numbers who arrive here between the months of November and May, and it is to be hoped that this will be done and the present system discontinued of importing from New York what can be more cheaply and more easily raised at home.

21. A very considerable amount of carrying between the United States and the Colony is done in the quantity of whiskey which is constantly being shipped to Bermuda to avoid payment of the duty which the customs laws of America enact after the spirit has remained in bond beyond a certain period in that country. This trade affords employment to a number of persons and the owners of warehouses charge a monthly rate for storage, but at present no direct gain from these transactions accrues to the revenue whilst extra expenses are incurred in the employment of customs officers for its protection. It is thought that during the current year further very large shipments of these goods will be made to Bermuda, and it is a matter of serious consideration how the protection necessary for the revenue is to be provided unless some small charge is made for the advantages afforded to the owner of the whiskey and his agents.

These shipments are not included in any of the returns of imports and exports. At the end of the year 1883, however, it was ascertained that some 20,000 barrels were stored in the various warehouses in these islands.

No. VII.—Gaols and Prisoners.

22. There were 196 persons committed to gaol during the year; of these 3 were for debt, 67 for safe custody until trial, and 126 for penal imprisonment.

The daily average number was 25, the number of admissions to hospital, 17, and the average on the sick list 1 in three days, whilst no deaths were recorded.

23. An attempt was made on the part of the Executive during the session to induce the Legislature to accept a new site for the gaol at Hamilton on some land near the town, which was placed at the disposal of the Colonial Government by the War Department. The House of Assembly, however, decided to adhere to the present site within the town, and the commencement of the new gaol is still delayed by the difficulty that is experienced in acquiring certain land contiguous to the present buildings and necessary for the carrying out of the plans of the new prison.

No. VIII.—Criminal Statistics.

24. There was a slight increase in the total number of offences reported to the police, viz., 366 against 338 in 1882.

The total is made up as shown in the following table:—

Total Number of Offences reported.	Offences against the Person.	Prædial Larceny.	Offences against Property.	Other Offences.
366	131	21	37	177

198 persons were convicted summarily, 42 were discharged for want of prosecution, 84 cases were dismissed on their merits, and 24 persons were committed for trial in the superior courts.

25. The comparative table showing the number of offences during the last four years gives an average of 397, and therefore the present year may be considered as a satisfactory one with regard to crime, and the returns on the head of the Colony compare most favourably with those of Her Majesty's other Colonial possessions.

No. IX.—Education.

26. The amount expended by the Board of Education during the year was 1,305*l.* out of a total of 1,400*l.* voted by the Legislature during the session.

The report of the Inspector of Schools shows that there were 1,101 children on the books of the various schools, the daily average attendance being 796; 813 were present at the various examinations, of whom 566 passed in reading, 420 in writing, and 269 in arithmetic.

27. The Inspector states that "these numbers, though slightly "lower than those submitted in 1882, considering that the standard "of examination was raised, show that the pupils stood the recent "test almost as well as they did the less severe one 18 months "ago."

28. The return issued in December showed that there were 1,547 children of school age in the Colony, of this number 1,168 were attending school, 236 were being taught at home, and 97 were receiving no instruction, whilst there were 46 imperfect returns.

No. X.—Public Institutions.

29. There are no public hospitals whatever in the Colony, one or two of the parishes possess poor houses, and there is a lunatic asylum which is supported at public expense.

In the latter the daily average of patients was 32, and they were maintained at a total cost of 1,500*l.*, including all charges of officers' salaries, &c. Additional accommodation was provided for during the year, and two additional strong rooms reported as necessary were commenced and are approaching completion.

No. XI.—Shipping.

30. The following table shows the number of vessels entered and cleared, and also their tonnage:—

Vessels entered.	No.	Tonnage.	Vessels cleared.	No.	Tonnage.
British - -	140	99,939	British - -	140	99,452
American - -	15	5,047	American - -	16	4,820
Other Countries -	15	7,857	Other Countries -	15	7,636
Total -	170	112,843	Total - -	171	111,908

CAVENDISH BOYLE,
Colonial Secretary.

Bermuda, 31st May 1884.

GIBRALTAR.

No. 14.

Acting Governor MAJOR-GENERAL M. WALKER, V.C., C.B., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY.

MY LORD, Gibraltar, May 8, 1884.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith for your Lordship's information the Blue Book of 1883, with some remarks thereon by the Colonial Secretary, and to request that, in accordance with the course followed last year, 30 copies may be printed under the directions of the Crown agents for circulation.

I have, &c.
(Signed) M. WALKER,
Major-General and Acting Governor.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Derby,
&c. &c.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Gibraltar,
May 5, 1884.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Excellency the annual Blue Book for the year 1883, with the accompanying report.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GIFFORD,
Colonial Secretary.

His Excellency
Major-General Mark Walker, V.C., C.B.,
Acting Governor,
&c. &c. &c.

Legislation.

The following laws were passed during the year 1883:—

1. An Ordinance for the prevention of trespass by goats and other animals in Gibraltar.
2. An Ordinance to enable the Governor to make rules and regulations for the government of the markets, slaughter-house, and the weigh-house.
3. An Order in Council re-assessing the tariff in the present currency of Gibraltar.
4. An Order in Council to consolidate and amend the Sanitary Orders in Council of Gibraltar.

Finance.

The actual revenue received amounted to Pts. 1219026·53 (48,761*l.*) and the actual expenditure to Pts. 1328639·27 (53,145*l.*).

There was an increase of revenue of Pts. 61879·05 (2,474*l.*) as compared with the previous year, whilst on the expenditure side there was a decrease of Pts. 60268·80 (2,410*l.*). To meet the deficiency the Invested Funds of the Colony were realized to the amount of Pts. 178,117·82 (7,124*l.*), leaving still invested the sum of Pts. 98280 (3,931*l.*).

The total transactions on the revenue side amounted to Pts. 1598975·17 (63,959*l.*) and on the expenditure side to Pts. 1515489·36 (60,619), leaving a credit balance of Pts. 83485·81 (3,339*l.*) on the 1st of January, of which Pts. 75477·09 (3,019*l.*) was in the Treasury chest and Pts.8008·72 (320*l.*) in the hands of the Crown agents.

The increase of revenue is attributable to the receipts under the Port and Land Revenue Departments, the former showing an increase of Pts. 45935·25 (1,877*l.*) over that of the previous year, and the latter an increase of Pts. 28877·60 (1,155*l.*), whilst on the other hand a decrease is exhibited under house rents, duty on wines and spirits.

There is somewhat of an unwillingness to compete for building leases among the inhabitants, and this may be ascribed to the conditions imposed, the cost of building, and to the fact that money is diverted to Linea (Spanish Town), where land, material, and labour are cheaper, and, in addition, no restrictions are imposed as to the style of houses to be built, the property being freehold and not let on building leases.

Public Debt.

There is no public debt. The ordinary receipts being in excess of the expenditure for many years until lately.

Port Department.

The work of the Port Department is increasing steadily, owing to the large number of steamers calling for coals and to the facilities of late given to coaling at night. The number of steam vessels that arrived in the year was 5,522, representing 4,625,917 tons, and the number of sailing vessels 1,405, representing 126,017 tons. Comparing this with 1882, it shows, on the general totals of arrivals, an increase of 398 steamers and 517,895 tons, and a decrease of 76 sailing ships, 237,728 tons, thus leaving collectively an increase of 322 vessels and 480,167 tons. The coaling trade is the only one of any consequence here.

GIBRALTAR.

Population.

The estimated population at the end of the year, inclusive of military, was reckoned at 24,680, living on an area of $1\frac{7}{8}$ square miles.

Criminal Statistics.

The number of summary convictions before the police magistrate was 721, being 301 more than in 1882, and before the Captain of the Port 41, or 13 more than in 1882. The offences were generally of a minor character.

The increase of convictions is attributable to what may be termed the re-organisation and the increased vigilance of the police force under the new chief inspector of police. The coal trade has been very active; consequently there has been an increase in drunkenness amongst a certain class of the population, whilst more offences than usual in connexion with traffic obstruction and cruelty to animals have been proceeded against.

Public Works.

Civil Hospital.—The works at the civil hospital were much retarded in consequence of the prevalence of small-pox. The segregation block was occupied the whole year by patients suffering from small-pox, and consequently the contractor's workmen were kept away from the vicinity of this building, and the new buildings in the vicinity made but little progress. During the year the dispensary block was roofed in and the internal fittings brought to an advanced stage; the eastern corridor was constructed and the western facade was nearly completed. The boiler-house and wash-house were roofed in, and the dead-house and disinfecting room were almost completed.

The new Lunatic Asylum was brought to a satisfactory completion on the 31st December.

At the *Court House* considerable repairs and improvements were effected, the roof of the court being renewed and raised in height, and the ventilation of the building much improved.

The *Colonial Secretary's House* was almost rebuilt, and the re-construction of the *Colonial Secretary's Office* was commenced.

A *Boarding Station* was formed in the casemates at the head of the Old Mole and connected with the Port Office by telephone.

During the year the sanitary commissioners carried on the usual works of scavenging, drainage, water supply and conservancy, and in addition performed the following large works, as well as many petty works of road, street, and drain improvements.

Southport Gate.—The second entrance, with improved approaches, was completed and opened for traffic.

South Sheds.—Communication steps from Line Wall Road to Witham's Road were constructed; the garrison pound was rebuilt,

and a store yard for the use of the commissioners in the south district was constructed.

West Place of Armes.—The large ramps for entrance and egress were remodelled and improved.

Casemate Square.—The formation of a second entrance gateway was commenced.

Public Health.

The public health duringthe year was rendered unsatisfactory, owing to the prevalence of small-pox, which prevailed in the adjoining country, but, notwithstanding this, the death rate for the year, 24·0 per 1,000, compares favourably with that for 1882, when it was 26·7 per 1,000.

It is a remarkable and noteworthy circumstance that there has not been a single death from either measles or scarlatina, two diseases that are so productive of mortality amongst children at home.

Education.

The code of regulations has worked well, and fair progress has been made in those schools that submitted to examination. More school accommodation, however, is required, as there are about 2,000 children in Gibraltar for whom there is none. Even if there were, however, it is doubtful if the children would be sent, unless the parents were compelled by law to do so. The present schools mostly owe their origin to the missionary efforts of the religious bodies and communities from which they take their names. The "Public School" buildings were reconstructed at the cost of the Government, and all but the Hebrew schools have been benefited by Crown leases on easy and indulgent terms. The average attendance of children has considerable increased, and it is hoped that the increase will continue.

Concluding Remarks.

Contrasting the general results of the year with those of previous years, it will be seen that the Colony has enjoyed a year of prosperity.

(Signed) GIFFORD,
Colonial Secretary.

MALTA.

MALTA.

No. 15.

Governor Sir A. BORTON, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY.

MY LORD, Palace, Valletta, June 7, 1884.

I HAVE the honour to forward the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1883, to which I append, for your Lordship's information, a report by Mr. Hely Hutchinson, the Chief Secretary to Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. BORTON,
Governor.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Derby,
&c. &c.

Chief Secretary's Office,
Malta, June 7, 1884.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit to your Excellency the following report on the Blue Book for 1883.

Revenue and Expenditure.

	£	s.	d.
1. The cash balance on 1st January 1883 was	19,951	8	3½
The revenue proper for 1883 was - -	205,566	8	8
Other receipts, including deposits, refunds of advances, &c. - - - -	77,077	9	8¾
Total - - -	302,595	6	8¼

	£	s.	d.			
The expenditure proper for 1883 was - -	183,737	18	0			
Other expenditure (including advances, remittances, investments, &c.) - -	91,299	3	7¾			
				275,037	1	7¾
Leaving a cash balance on 31st December 1883 of - - - - -				27,588	5	0½

2. The revenue and expenditure proper may be tabulated thus: —

1883.	Customs.	Other Receipts.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Revenue - - -	133,347 3 10	72,219 4 10	205,566 8 8

1883.	Salaries.	Other Expenditure.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Expenditure -	81,446 5 0	102,291 11 0	183,737 16 0

	£	s.	d.
3. The cash balance on the 31st December was - - - - -	27,558	5	$0\frac{1}{2}$
Add balance on Investment Account -	26,488	12	$1\frac{3}{4}$
And contribution due from Imperial Government on account of Egyptian refugees -	10,000	0	0
Total surplus on 31st December -	64,046	17	$2\frac{1}{4}$

Public Debt.

4. Properly speaking, Malta has no public debt. Interest is paid at $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on a sum of 78,368*l.* 5*s.* $2\frac{3}{4}$*d.*, representing certain sums invested in the "Massa Frumentaria"; but the holders of the scrip of the "Massa Frumentaria" have no right to claim payment of capital. Court deposits are covered by investments, and no interest is payable on them. Savings banks deposits are also covered by investments, and interest at the rate of 2 per cent. is paid on deposits of 100*l.* and under.

Legislation.

5. The Council of Government met for the first time in 1883 on the 31st October.

No legislation was effected during the year, the time of the Council having been absorbed by the consideration of the General Estimates for 1884, and in discussions upon the question of education.

Political Franchise.

6. The number of registered electors at the time of the election of 1883 was 8,873 for Malta and 1,764 for Gozo and Comino, a total of 10,637 out of a male population of 75,070; of these 10,637 probably 7,000 are illiterate.

The number of persons who exercised the franchise in 1883 was 2,466 for Malta and 283 for Gozo and Comino.

No illiterate voters exercised the franchise.

Councils and Assemblies.

7. The number of members of the Executive Council was increased to six by the appointment of the Auditor General, the Director of Education, and the Collector of Customs.

MALTA.

The Council of Government met on the 31st October 1883, and was prorogued on the 11th January last, after the resignation of seven of the elected members.

Civil Establishment.

8. The Government of Malta was administered throughout the year by Sir Arthur Borton, G.C.M.G., K.C.B.

On the 26th April 1883 the Hon. Walter Hely Hutchinson, C.M.G., asumed the duties of Chief Secretary to Government, vice Sir Victor Houlton, G.C.M.G., who retired on a pension.

Population.

9. The population in 1882 was estimated at 152,229 persons

The births during 1883 were -	5,913	
The deaths „ „ „ -	3,886	
Increase	2,027	„
Showing an estimated population on 31st December 1883 of - - -	154,256	„

Savings Banks.

10. The amount of deposits in the savings banks on 31st December 1883 was:—

	£	s.	d.			
In Malta -	287,708	15	0¾	by	4,149	depositors
„ Gozo -	15,906	2	6	„	320	„
	303,614	17	6¾		4,469	

showing an average of 67*l.* per depositor. It will be observed that the savings bank does not appear to be made use of to any great extent by the poorer classes.

Education.

11. The following is a list of the educational establishments:—

The University, attended by - -	57	scholars
The Lyceum „ - -	445	„
2 Secondary Schools „ - -	129	„
75 Primary Schools - -	8,503	„
8 Infant Schools - - -	954	„
Total - - -	10,088	

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

Imports.

	£		£	
2. The following is the value of cargoes imported and actually landed at this port -	864,390	against	732,717	in 1882.
Value of cargoes which merely touched at this port and were re-exported in the same bottoms - -	21,886,122	„	25,882,087	„
	22,750,512	„	26,614,804	„
viz. :—				
From the United Kingdom - -	113,833	„	129,856	„
From the British Colonies - -	4,673,053	„	5,052,599	„
From H.M. Ships in port - -	1,059	„	2,540	„
From Foreign Countries	17,962,567	„	21,429,809	„
	22,750,512		26,614,804	„

Exports.

	£		£	
13. The value of exports from portions of cargoes which were landed at this port was	80,570	against	108,874	in 1882.
Value of exports of whole cargoes which merely touched at this port and proceeded in the same bottoms -	21,890,108	„	25,824,415	„
	21,970,678	„	25,933,289	„
viz. :—				
To the United Kingdom	8,147,544	against	9,566,649	„
„ British Colonies -	4,275,982	„	4,737,803	„
„ H.M. Ships -	6,753	„	9,416	„
„ Foreign Countries -	9,540,399	„	11,619,421	„
	21,970,678		25,933,289	

Value of agricultural produce exported in the year 1883, 50,904*l.*

The decreases in imports and exports are probably due to the cessation of the impetus given to the local trade in 1882 by the Egyptian war, and partly to quarantine in 1883.

Shipping.

14. The shipping movement in the port during the last two years is shown in the following table:—

Year.	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1882 - -	4,620	4,635,680	1,785	160,271
1883 - -	4,230	4,667,390	1,582	152,066
Increase - -	—	31,710	—	—
Decrease - -	390	—	203	8,205

Criminal Statistics.

15. The following is a statement of offences punishable under the local laws, showing the number of accusations and of persons brought before the courts by the police in 1883:—

Offences.	No. of Cases.	No. of Persons.	Acquitted.	Condemned.
CRIMINAL LAWS.				
Crimes against public tranquillity - -	18	19	1	18
„ affecting public credit - -	2	4	1	3
„ „ the good order of families	17	22	9	13
„ against the person - - -	256	312	38	274
„ „ property - -	263	350	78	272
CONTRAVENTIONS.				
Affecting public order - - -	1,722	3,211	363	2,848
Against the person - - - -	655	918	136	782
„ property - - -	125	263	36	167
OTHER CONTRAVENTIONS.				
Under special Ordinances - - -	365	560	19	541
POLICE LAWS.				
Contraventions - - - -	3,448	5,404	230	5,174
Total - -	6,871	11,003	911	10,092

viz.:—	No.
Maltese - - - - - -	10,766
English - - - - - -	205
Foreign - - - - - -	32
	11,003

The number of persons committed in 1883 was as follows:—

Men - - - -	2,847
Women - - - -	272
Boys - - - -	1,032
Girls - - - -	8
	4,159

I have, &c.
(Signed) WALTER HELY HUTCHINSON,
Chief Secretary to Government.

To His Excellency
Sir Arthur Borton, G.C.M.G., K.C.B.,
Governor of Malta,
&c. &c. &c.

CEYLON.

No. 16.

Governor SIR A. H. GORDON, G.C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY.

The Pavilion, Kandy, Ceylon,
July 3, 1884.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the Blue Book of Ceylon for 1883.

2. Having only arrived in the Colony in the course of the month of December I had no personal share in any of the transactions of the past year, and no personal knowledge of its events.

3. The usual report accompanying the Blue Book has accordingly been prepared by the Acting Colonial Secretary, Mr. G. O'Brien, and this I have now the honour to enclose for your Lordship's information.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ARTHUR GORDON.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Derby, K.G.,
&c. &c.

MEMORANDUM on the BLUE BOOK for 1883.

1. It is a matter for satisfaction that although the depression of the main staple of export was continued and intensified during the year, the coffee crop being by far the smallest of any during the last quarter of a century, the revenue for the year exceeded the expenditure, and that it also exceeded the revenue for 1882. This result has been brought about not only by exceedingly good harvests of paddy, but by an increased cultivation of various other articles of produce, amongst which the development in the exportation of the products of the cocoanut palm is very noticeable; and it may now, I think, be fairly asserted that, apart from

CEYLON.

the not unreasonable anticipation of some improvement taking place in the present position of coffee, the prospects of the Colony, looking as well to the progressive activity apparent in the native industries as to the results already obtained and the larger possibilities in the near future arising from the cultivation by the European planters of cinchona, cacao, and especially of tea are more promising than they have been for some years past During the last decade it may be said, with a considerable degree of truth, that not only was the prosperity of many classes of the native population to a large extent involved in the successful cultivation of one product alone, coffee, but that indirectly the maintenance of the revenue of the Government itself was mainly dependent on the same source. Happily this is no longer the case, as may be seen from the fact that while the exportation of coffee has fallen from 464,703 cwts. in 1882 to 305,417 cwts. in 1883, the general revenue has risen from Rs. 12,161,570 02 to Rs. 12,396,577 87.

Revenue and Expenditure.

2. The revenue for 1883 amounted, as just stated, to Rs. 12,396,577 87, or at the par of 1*s.* 10½*d.* to the rupee, officially adopted for purposes of comparison with the results of former years to 1,162,179*l.* 3*s.* 6*d.*, showing an increase of Rs. 235,617 78, or 22,089*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.* on the revenue for 1882. The expenditure on the votes of the year amounted to Rs. 12,222,234 24, or 1,145,834*l.* 9*s.* 2*d.*, showing a decrease of Rs. 272,430, or 25,540*l.* 6*s.* 3*d.* on the corresponding expenditure for 1882. In addition to this amount there was expended during the year a sum of Rs. 24,793 37, or 2,324*l.* 7*s.* 7*d.* from unexpended balances of previous years brought forward for expenditure in 1883. The total expenditure of the year, exclusive of the outlay on the Breakwater, the Railway Extension, and the Colombo Waterworks, the cost of which is specially provided for and does not figure in the annual expenditure, amounted therefore to Rs. 12,247,027 61, or 1,148,158*l.* 16*s.* 9*d.*, showing a decrease of Rs. 401,288 65, or 37,620*l.* 16*s.* 3*d.* on the corresponding total for 1882. The revenue of the year exceeded the expenditure under the votes of the year by Rs. 174,343 62, or 16,344*l.* 14*s.* 4*d.*, from which should be deducted a sum of Rs. 51,604, or 4,837*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*, which has been brought forward from the votes of the year for expenditure in 1884, making a nett excess of revenue over expenditure of Rs. 122,739 62, or 11,506*l.* 16*s.* 10*d.*

3. The following are the principal items of increase and decrease.

Revenue.

4. *Port and Harbour Dues.*—The decrease of Rs. 87,004 39 under the sub-head "port clearance" is due to the receipts under this sub-head at Colombo having been transferred to the sub-head "harbour dues and rent of grounds," the receipts under which are chargeable with the interest on the Breakwater loan and the maintenance of the port, and produced in 1883 the sum of Rs. 384,089 18.

Land Revenue.—The gratifying increase of Rs. 125,508 47 under the sub-head "paddy" is due to the excellence of the rice harvests, to which cause a consequent not regretable decrease of Rs. 3,159 87 under the sub-head "fine grain" is also attributable. Stamps, general, exhibit the large decrease of Rs. 50,892, and postage a small falling off of Rs. 2,707 17. The decrease of Rs. 23,300 42 under "fines and forfeitures," sub-head, "other departments," is due to the fact that the penalty imposed on the Jaffna and Ballicaloa Agricultural Company, for destruction of Crown timber and non-fulfilment of their contract, was brought to account under this sub-head in 1882.

Sale of Government Property.—There is a large increase of Rs. 61,583 16 under the sub-head "timber," a decrease of Rs. 11,115 55 under "salt," and a decrease of Rs. 11,406 10, caused by an alteration in the mode of accounting for stationery supplied to Public Departments, under Colonial store reimbursements. The working of the Medical Aid Ordinance was taken over by the Civil Medical Department from the 1st of January 1883, and the item of Rs. 8,063 12 under the sub-head "Medical Aid Fund," represents the recoveries made under clauses 15 and 19 of Ordinance 17 of 1880, and sundry other small items. It may be convenient here to note that the recoveries at the Customs under clause 4 of Ordinance 9, of 1882, are not shown separately in the statement of receipts. They amounted to Rs. 22,963 24, were placed in deposit and will be brought to account in 1884. In future years they will be brought to account as they accrue. The increase of Rs. 26,816 99, under cost of police within municipalities, is only apparent as it includes arrears of 1882.

Miscellaneous Receipts.—The increase of Rs. 70,458 33 under "deficiency of troops" arises from no corresponding receipt having been brought to credit in the preceding year, and the large increase of Rs. 103,837 77 under the sub-head "incidental" is due mainly to the transfer to revenue of the available balance on the sinking fund of the railway from Colombo to Kandy. Railway receipts show a decrease of Rs. 164,984 72, and telegraph receipts a decrease of Rs. 15,201 26.

Expenditure.

5 On *Establishments*, under which heading are included certain contingencies and allowances, besides fixed and provisional salaries, there are increases amounting to Rs. 30,711 33 and decreases amounting to Rs. 121,149 59, the nett decrease being thus Rs. 90,438 26. The details of the expenditure are given in the financial statements in the Blue Book, and the only item calling for remark here is the apparent increase of Rs. 14,413 48 under the heading Supreme Court Judges. This is caused by the salary paid in England to Sir R. Cayley from June to December 1882 having been brought to account in 1883. The omission of the payment from the accounts of 1882, and its inclusion in those of 1883, result in an apparent increase of expenditure in the latter year of double the amount paid. Services, exclusive of

CEYLON. Establishments, exhibit increases amounting to Rs. 339,145 75, and decreases amounting to Rs. 521,137 48, or a nett decrease of Rs. 181,991 73. The details appear in the financial statements, and the only items calling for special notice are the increase under hospitals and sanitation, and the decrease of Rs. 85,578 17 under electric telegraph. Full information regarding the former will be found in the section "public health," the latter is accounted for by the payment to the Indian Government in 1882 of compensation for their loss in working the Ceylon telegraphs in previous years.

Assets and Liabilities.

6. The assets of the Ceylon Government on December 31st 1883 amounted to Rs 7,643,641 76, or 716,591*l.* 8*s.* 3*d.*, and the liabilities on the same date to Rs. 6,629,800 63, or 621,543*l.* 16*s.* 2*d.*, and there was thus an excess of assets over liabilities of Rs. 1,013,841 13, or 95,047*l.* 12*s.* 1*d.*

7. The debt of the Colony on the same date amounted to 2,124,108*l.*, consisting of 396,100*l.*, being the amount of 400,000*l.* due on debentures for the construction of the Colombo Breakwater, less Rs. 3,900 repaid; 162,008*l.* 7*s.* 2*d.*, being the amount of 175,000*l.* borrowed from the Public Works Loan Commissioners for the same purpose, less 12,991*l.* 12*s.* 10*d.* repaid; 275,000*l.*, being the amount due on debentures for the construction of the railway from Kandy to Matale; 1,000,000*l.*, being the amount due on debentures for the construction of the railway from Nawalapitiya to Nanu-oya; and Rs. 291,000, being the amount due on debentures for the construction of the Colombo Waterworks. Repayment of the debt, principal and interest, is secured on the general revenues of the Colony.

Imports and Exports.

8. Exclusive of specie in each case, the imports of the year were valued at Rs. 43,115,036 63 and the exports at Rs. 35,213,516 96, showing respectively an increase of Rs. 1,353,671 64 and a decrease of Rs. 1,126,324 40 on the corresponding totals for 1882. The decrease in the exports is attributable to the continued fall in coffee, which is largely, but not wholly, compensated by an increased exportation of other articles of commerce. Besides coffee the only item of export that shows a noticeable decrease is tobacco.

Imports.

9. Cotton manufactures show a total value of Rs. 5,133,537 against Rs. 4,751,877 in 1882, being an excess in value of Rs. 381,660. Coal exhibits an increase of 27,638 tons, the importation having risen to 195,882 tons from 168,244 tons in the previous year, and 104,362 tons in 1881. Dried fish and live stock figure for increases of Rs. 275,376 and Rs. 193,262 respectively. The other items of imports do not call for any special remark.

Exports.

10. Coffee, plantation and native, shows a falling off of 159,286 cwts. in quantity and Rs. 4,463,234 in value, and tobacco a

decrease of 10,036 cwts., valued at Rs. 241,619. The decreases shown by a few other items are insignificant, and if it were not for the loss on coffee the exports would show a considerable improvement on the returns for 1882. Cocoanut oil was exported to an amount larger in quantity than the exportation in the preceding year by 137,427 cwts., and to an increased value of Rs. 1,710,212. Copperah shows an increase of 75,211 cwts., valued at Rs. 779,405, and coir fibre and rope an increase of Rs. 206,985. It will thus be seen that the value of the several products of the cocoanut palm exceeded that for 1882 by Rs. 2,696,602, to which should be added an increase of Rs. 45,771 in the value of cocoanuts exported, making a grand total of Rs. 2,742,373. Cinchona exhibits a large increase of 2,833,061 lbs., valued at Rs. 644,232, which is probably an under-valuation. The increase in tea is not so large as was anticipated, but it reaches the respectable amount of 968,500 lbs., valued at Rs. 324,366, an estimate of value which has been considerably exceeded by the results of the sales in the London market. An increased out-turn of cinnamon has resulted, in spite of very low prices, in an increase in value of Rs. 121,913, and it is satisfactory to note that the position of cacao, which is of an excellent quality, continues to improve, the exportation in 1883 having exceeded that in 1882 by 2,512 cwts., valued at Rs. 105,473.

Shipping.

11. As compared with 1882 there is an increase of 117,815 tons inwards and 96,357 tons outwards.

Public Works.

12. The expenditure of the Public Works Department, including the sums contributed for grant-in-aid roads under the Ordinance, and those arising from all other sources, amounted to Rs. 2,091,917 39, or Rs. 193,052 04 less than the expenditure for 1882. The cost of the establishment, including salaries, fixed and provisional, office contingencies and allowances, but exclusive of travelling allowances and other general charges, the details of which are given under "departmental charges," was Rs. 268,949 84, or Rs. 23,625 56 less than the corresponding cost for 1882. If to this be added the amount expended by way of travelling allowances, Rs. 56,801 94, the total cost of the establishment will be seen to be Rs. 325,751 78, or nearly 16 per cent. of the total expenditure. The proportionate cost of the staff would have been higher than this if some of the staff had not, as in the previous year, been lent to the railway contractors and the Straits Government, and otherwise provided for without entailing a charge on the estimates of the department. Reductions in the staff will continue to be made as vacancies occur. The mileage of metalled roads in the island was increased during the year by 19·34 miles, partly by metalling roads previously only gravelled, and partly by the extension of the Udu Pussellawa road in the coffee districts at a cost of Rs. 35,945 31. The total mileage of principal roads is returned

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at 2,834·44 miles against 2,836·47 miles in 1882, the decrease being accounted for by the remeasurement of certain roads after they had been improved by easing off corners and bends. The average cost of the upkeep of principal roads was Rs. 436 54 per mile as against Rs. 491 33 in the previous year. The amount expended on Irrigation Works, exclusive of the expenditure on maintenance, was Rs. 93,830 30, or more than double the corresponding expenditure in 1882, Rs. 45,656 51. The subjoined tables exhibit (1) a classification of the expenditure under the headings establishment, construction, up-keep, improvements, and departmental and miscellaneous charges; (2) the funds from which the expenditure has been met; (3) the expenditure incurred in the several provinces; and (4) an abstract of the expenditure on the various classes of Public Works in each of the provinces of the island.

(1.)

	1883.	1882.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.
Establishment, including allowances and contingencies - - -	268,949 84	292,575 40	—	23,625 56
Up-keep of roads, bridges, canals, and irrigation works - - -	1,395,095 27	1,539,401 17	—	144,305 90
Repairs of buildings - -	110,704 23	102,961 17	7,743 06	—
Departmental charges and miscellaneous - -	111,463 42	124,720 11	—	13,256 69
New works and buildings -	25,557 19	103,667 54	—	78,110 35
Alterations and additions to buildings - -	8,250 29	9,100 41	—	850 12
New roads and additions to roads - - -	74,324 89	65,395 75	8,929 14	—
New bridges - -	3,741 96	1,491 37	2,250 59	—
Inland navigation - -	—	—	—	—
Irrigation works - -	93,830 30	45,656 51	48,173 79	—
Total - -	2,091,917 39	2,284,969 43	67,096 58	260,148 62

(2.)

	1883.	1882.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.
Supply Bill, 1883 - -	1,645,557 14	1,800,705 09	—	155,147 95
Supplementary Supply Bill, 1883 - - -	27,505 18	20,227 44	7,277 74	—
Amounts in deposit -	36,402 86	42,400 54	—	5,997 68
Unexpended balance of previous years - -	24,744 06	23,107 27	1,636 79	—
Road Ordinance funds -	258,841 04	251,301 96	7,539 08	—
Private contribution -	55,579 17	75,913 94	—	20,334 77
Loan board funds - -	954 19	35,362 90	—	34,408 71
From other departments -	32,592 86	17,934 81	14,658 05	—
From vote for Colombo waterworks - -	9,740 89	18,015 48	—	8,274 59
Total - -	2,091,917 39	2,284,969 43	31,111 66	224,163 70

(3.)

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	1883.	1882.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.
Western Province - -	625,617 04	721,334 05	—	95,717 01
North-western Province -	157,989 70	180,698 85	—	22,709 15
Southern Province -	211,372 13	227,683 25	—	16,311 12
Eastern Province - -	143,613 89	124,531 63	19,082 26	—
Northern Province -	154,381 15	138,767 96	15,613 19	—
North Central Province -	87,925 97	103,417 78	—	15,491 81
Central Province - -	711,017 51	788,535 91	—	77,518 40
Total - -	2,091,917 39	2,284,969 43	34,695 45	227,747 49

(4.)

Heads of Service.	Western Province.	North-western Province.	Southern Province.	Eastern Province.	Northern Province.	North-central Province.	Central Province.	Total.
Works and Buildings.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.
New works and buildings -	*5,232 57*				*369 56*			*5,602 13*
	13,677 10	205 0	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	6,195 24	20,077 34
Alterations and additions to buildings - -	*169 15*	*283 95*	*500 0*		*2,425 98*		*815 0*	*4,194 8*
	3,261 39	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	672 62	3,934 1
Repairs to buildings - - -	*2,509 0*	*251 80*	*1,729 37*	*2,496 85*	*897 0*	*4 48*	*5,434 9*	*13,322 9*
	35,606 75	3,246 44	8,206 70	5,155 97	7,595 49	1,639 84	36,120 55	97,571 74
Roads, Streets, Bridges, and Canals.								
New roads - -	15,048 87	- - -	1,288 50	- - -	- - -	- - -	*21,468 11*	*21,468 11*
							26,032 20	42,369 57
Additions and improvements to roads - - -	4,977 4	- - -	- - -	*3,996 5*	- - -	- - -	- - -	*3,996 5*
				- - -				4,977 4
	73,213 11	*34,200 74*	*31,340 66*	*10,195 86*	*28,733 98*	*9,295 82*	*66,716 35*	*253,696 52*
Up-keep of roads -	262,820 24	60,992 14	90,109 77	72,350 73	72,116 32	31,825 42	422,770 66	1,012,985 28
							2,172 61	*2,172 61*
New bridges - -	2,758 30	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	2,758 30
Repair of bridges -	18,186 71	998 75	8,268 44	898 22	13,102 13	- - -	16,851 64	58,305 89
	6,811 8	*2,141 96*			*1,020 58*			*9,973 62*
Inland navigation -	7,874 94	10,594 70	- - -	- - -	1,912 84	- - -	- - -	20,382 48
Irrigation Works.								
New works - -	1,702 77	7,739 41	25,119 44	14,280 63	- - -	20,987 82	13,003 87	82 833 94
Up-keep works -	895 68	5,661 76	12,301 62	8,767 34	299 58	9,220 92	1,801 86	38,948 76
Departmental Charges.								
Ferry boats -	1,195 83	- - -	- -	892 48	- - -	- - -	90 0	2,178 31
General service -	8,713 52	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	979 31	9,692 83
Miscellaneous -	51,629 46	6,227 80	12,235 83	5,428 0	5,349 72	8,620 43	22,040 61	111,531 85
	82,702 34	*42,110 52*	*33,570 3*	*16,688 76*	*33,447 10*	*9,300 30*	*96,601 16*	*314,420 21*
	428,348 60	95,666 0	157,530 30	107,773 37	100,376 8	72,294 43	546,558 56	1,508,547 34
Establishment -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	268,949 84
								314,420 21
Total Rs.	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	1,777,497 18

The figures in *Italic* denote expenditure under the Road Ordinance Funds and Private Contribution.

CEYLON.

The furniture of the Queen's Houses is reported to be in fair order, but the structures themselves to require considerable repairs.

Breakwater.

13. The breakwater was lengthened during the year by 503 feet at a cost, including that of dredging a portion of the harbour, of Rs. 685,612 11, bringing the total length to 4,212 feet and the total expenditure to Rs. 7,486,822 35 at the end of the year.

Survey Department.

14. The total amount realised by the sale and settlement of Crown lands, including survey fees, is reported by the Surveyor General to have been Rs. 330,811, or Rs. 21,165 less than the corresponding total in 1882. The gross expenditure of the department from its own votes was Rs. 355,878 08, or Rs. 25,067 08 in excess of the earnings. From the gross expenditure should be deducted, for the purpose of ascertaining the cost of the surveys for the sale and settlement of Crown lands, a sum of Rs. 30,934 94 expended on coast and railway surveys, meteorological observations, and other miscellaneous services which did not produce any revenue to be credited to the earnings of the department. It will then appear that the department earned just sufficient, roughly speaking, to cover its expenditure on establishments, but it can only be said to have done this on the basis of putting the value of the Crown lands disposed of at nil. In other words, the result of the operations of the department during the year may be stated to be that the Government got a considerable amount of useful work done at the cost of parting with a large quantity of valuable Crown land. Some progress of a desirable character has been made; but on the other hand, what may be termed the capital of Government has been diminished by the alienation of Crown lands to an extent, taking the actual amount realised by the lands, of Rs. 266,847, but in reality to a much larger extent, regard being had to the fact that the price obtainable for land during the year was, owing to the general depression, abnormally small.

The Secretary of State has already been addressed on the question of reducing the survey establishment, and it may be necessary shortly to revert to the subject.

In the following tables will be found the details of the lots alienated in the several provinces, an abstract of the lands disposed of to Europeans and natives respectively, and a return of all lands disposed of in each province during the year. It is curious and interesting to observe that the highest average price per acre obtained in any part of the island was obtained in the North Central Province.

(1.)

ABSTRACT showing the Number of LOTS, ACREAGE, PURCHASE AMOUNT, and FEES of LANDS sold or otherwise alienated from the Crown in the respective PROVINCES during the year 1883.

Provinces.	Lots sold and granted at Half Value.					Lots settled on Certificates, Free Grants, &c.			Total Receipts for each Province
	No. of Lots.	Extent.	Purchase Amount.	Average Rate per Acre.	Fees.	No. of Lots.	Extent.	Fees.	
		A. R. P.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.		A. R. P.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.
Central - -	350	3,443 2 11	40,456 41	11 74	6,543 70	337	1,515 2 24	3,485 40	50,485 51
Western -	1,955	8,001 3 4	122,812 51	15 34	19,121 90	1,800	3,584 1 34	11,255 70	*153,190 11
Eastern - -	278	1,501 2 17	18,729 50	12 48	3,736 30	2	609 1 0	842 0	23,307 80
Southern -	274	1,926 0 13	22,989 30	11 94	4,408 80	28	32 3 14	112 50	27,510 60
Northern -	219	455 1 34	5,558 50	12 20	1,473 50	—	—	—	7,032 00
North-western	389	2,819 2 22	39,824 25	14 13	6,597 20	254	371 1 24	1,267 0	47,718 45
North Central	174	837 3 8	16,446 50	19 63	2,290 80	—	—	—	18,737 30
Fees recovered on account of Temple Land Title Plans -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	52 25
Fees for tracings, &c. -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2,777 41
Total -	3,639	18,985 3 29	266,846 97	14 05	44,172 20	2,421	6,113 2 6	16,962 60	330,811 43

(2.)

ABSTRACT of LANDS sold and granted and otherwise disposed of to EUROPEANS and NATIVES in 1883.

Provinces.	Europeans.			Natives.		
	Lots.	Extent.	Amount and Fees.	Lots.	Extent.	Amount and Fees.
		A. R. P.	Rs. cts.		A. R. P.	Rs. cts.
Central - - -	119	4,021 2 10	42,388 23	568	937 2 25	8,097 28
Western - - -	44	1,656 1 23	23,849 40	3,711	9,929 3 15	*129,340 71
Eastern - - -	2	609 1 0	842 00	278	1,501 2 17	22,465 80
Southern - - -	3	347 1 4	4,051 60	299	1,611 3 25	23,459 00
Northern - -	—	—	—	219	455 1 34	7,032 00
North-western - -	8	393 1 39	5,604 95	635	2,797 2 7	42,113 50
North Central - -	—	—	—	174	837 3 8	18,737 30
Total -	176	7,027 3 36	76,736 18	5,884	18,071 3 11	251,245 59

* Including Chenas.

(3.)

RETURN of LANDS sold or otherwise disposed of during the Year 1883.

Provinces.	Crown Lands sold.				Encroachments sold or given at a Valuation.				Granted at Half Value.				Old Grants or Grants made in terms of Minute of 8th Aug. 1844.			Free Grants or Settlements for Certificates against the Crown.			Total Results of Sales, &c. of each Province during the year.				
	Lots.	Extent.	Amount.	Fees.	Lots.	Extent.	Amount.	Fees.	Lots.	Extent.	Amount.	Fees.	Lots.	Extent.	Fees.	Lots.	Extent.	Fees.	Lots.	Extent.	Amount.	Fees.	Amount including Fees.
		Acres.	Rs.	Rs.		Acrs.	Rs.	Rs.		Acrs.	Rs.	Rs.		Acrs.	Rs.		Acres.	Rs.		Acres.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Central - -	300	2,788	33,558	5,523	36	620	6,520	915	14	35	378	106	—	—	—	337	1,516	3,485	687	4,959	40,456	10,029	50,485
Western - -	1,646	7,586	116,415	17,684	—	—	—	—	309	416	6,397	1,438	—	—	—	1,800	3,584	11,256	3,755	11,586	122,812	30,378	153,190
Eastern - -	250	1,361	16,279	3,371	14	73	996	202	14	68	1,455	163	2	609	842	—	—	—	280	2,111	18,730	4,578	23,308
Southern - -	192	1,735	20,483	3,847	78	184	2,426	537	4	7	81	25	—	—	—	28	33	112	302	1,959	22,990	4,521	27,511
Northern -	219	455	5,558	1,474	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	219	455	5,558	1,474	7,032
North-western -	304	2,583	37,097	5,887	—	—	—	—	85	237	2,758	710	—	—	—	254	371	1,267	643	3,191	39,855	7,864	47,719
North Central -	174	838	16,446	2,291	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	174	838	16,446	2,291	18,737
Fees recovered on Temple Land Title Plans in 1883 - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	52
Fees for tracings, &c. - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2,777
Total -	3,085	17,346	245,836	40,077	128	877	9,942	1,654	426	763	11,069	2,442	2	609	842	2,419	5,504	16,120	6,060	25,099	266,847	61,135	330,811

Railway.

15. The length of line open for public traffic was the same as in 1882, viz., 136¾ miles, exclusive of the line for the carriage of materials for the breakwater. The total earnings of the year are returned by the traffic manager at Rs. 2,476,384, or Rs. 156,244 less than the earnings for the previous year, and the working expenses at Rs. 1,276,800, or about 51·5 per cent. of the receipts, showing a reduction as compared with 1882 of Rs. 84,315. The decrease in receipts occurred during the first six months of the year, which showed a diminution of Rs. 171,066 on the receipts during the corresponding period of 1882; during the last half of the year a slight improvement took place owing mainly to the coffee crop being an early one. The main line from Kandy to Colombo shows a profit on receipts over working expenses of 5·9 per cent. on the capital cost, the branch line from Kandy to Matale a loss of Rs. 9,884, and the coast line from Colombo to Kalutara a profit of 2·2 per cent.

Legislation.

16. The consideration of the Penal Code and the Code of Criminal Procedure occupied so much time that although the Legislative Council sat for an unusually long period it was able to pass only six Ordinances, including the two codes, by the close of 1883. Eighteen more Ordinances were passed at the beginning of 1884 during an adjourned session, but these cannot fitly be included in the present review. The Ordinances passed during 1883 are as follows:—

No. 1.—An Ordinance relating to the Law Officers of the Crown, and to the deputies to the Queen's Advocate. This Ordinance simply provides for an alteration in the designation of the Queen's Advocate and his deputies.

No. 2.—An Ordinance to provide a general penal code for this Colony.

No. 3.—An Ordinance for regulating the procedure of the courts of criminal judicature.

No. 4.—An Ordinance to amend the law relating to municipal councils in this island. This Ordinance empowers the governor to appoint any fit and proper person to be chairman of any municipal council in the island, and it supersedes in that respect the provisions of the Ordinance No. 17 of 1865 under which the government agent of the province was ex-officio chairman of the council.

No. 5.—An Ordinance for making provision for the supplementary contingent charges for the year 1883.

No. 6.—An Ordinance for further continuing the Ordinance No. 7 of 1881, intituled "An Ordinance to make temporary "provision for securing the status of French mail steamers within "the ports of this Colony."

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Public Health.

17. The principal Civil Medical Officer reports that the public health was, on the whole satisfactory, and that there were no cases of epidemic cholera although the disease was prevalent in several parts of Southern India during the year. There were 1,410 cases of small-pox, of which 256 ended fatally, and 812 of chicken-pox, none of which ended fatally. The work of vaccination was actively pursued, the number of primary operations amounting to 129,002, of which 76·44 per cent. were successful, and re-vaccinations were performed to the number of 17,431, of which 39·13 per cent. were successful. Malarial fevers existed as usual in various parts of the island, but not to such an extent as to call for any special measures of relief. The number of deaths is returned by the Registrar General at 53,680 as against 54,688 in 1882. The cost of the medical establishment, including salaries, allowances, and contingencies, amounted to Rs. 211,778 28, and the expenditure on the civil hospitals, exclusive of establishments, to Rs. 279,274 64, making a total of Rs. 491,052 92, from which should be deducted, for purposes of comparison with 1882, a sum of Rs. 15,271 10, being cost of medicines purchased by the Medical Department but transferred for the use of the special district hospitals and dispensaries established under the Medical Aid Ordinance, the working of which was taken over by the Medical Department from 1st January 1883. The total expenditure of the department for the year, exclusive of the cost of working the Medical Aid Ordinance, was therefore Rs. 475,781 82, or Rs. 35,292 39 less than the corresponding total of Rs. 511,074 21 for 1882. The cost of the medical establishment employed under the Medical Aid Ordinance amounted to Rs. 53,791 41, and the expenditure on the special medical aid district hospitals and dispensaries, exclusive of establishment, to Rs. 80,240 64, making a total of Rs. 134,032 05. The grand total of the expenditure of the department for the year amounted therefore to Rs. 609,813 87, or Rs. 98,739 66 more than the total expenditure for 1882. When against the expenditure of Rs. 134,032 05 incurred under the Medical Aid Ordinance are set off the recoveries amounting to Rs. 30,021 33 under clauses 15 and 19 of Ordinance 17 of 1880, and clause 4 of Ordinance 9 of 1882, the nett loss to Government in working the Ordinance is shown to be Rs. 104,010 72. It is satisfactory to know that the estate coolies are receiving far better medical aid than they ever received before, but it will be seen that this object is attained at the cost of a very heavy charge on the general revenue. It should be borne in mind that the coolies benefit by the general civil medical hospitals in the Central Province to an extent which much more than outweighs the portion of the expenditure on the special district medical aid hospitals which benefit the native population other than the estate coolies. From a report which has just been sent in by the principal civil medical officer on the working of the Medical Aid Ordinance for 1883, it appears that of the 1,455 cases treated in the seven special medical aid hospitals during the year, 1,161, or four-fifths, were estate

coolies, and only 294, or one fifth, other than such coolies while no less than 1,001 cases of estate coolies were treated in the eight civil general hospitals, which have been appointed hospitals for the purposes of the Ordinance, but none of the cost of which is included in the total cost of working the Ordinance. The cost therefore to Government of providing medical aid for the coolies considerably exceeds the nett loss of Rs. 104,010 72 on working the Medical Aid Ordinance; but even if it be taken at that amount it is quite disproportionate to the general expenditure of the department, which is shown above to be Rs. 475,781 82 for a population of over 2,500,000. The recoveries by way of reimbursements under Ordinance 17 of 1880 and 9 of 1882 will increase in future years, more especially as the rates leviable under the latter at the Customs on the exports of estate produce have now been raised to the full extent authorised by law, but on the other hand, it is only natural to suppose that the increasing use of the district medical aid hospitals by the coolies will continue to increase, and therewith the expenditure and the consequent loss to Government, and it may be necessary before long to consider in the interest of the general taxpayers whether a re-adjustment is not required of the proportion paid by the planters of the cost of providing medical aid for their servants, the coolies. The statistics of the cases treated in the hospitals during the year are given in the subjoined table :—

SUMMARY of GENERAL ANNUAL RETURN relating to twenty-four Civil Hospitals, the Galle, the Police Hospital at Maradana and

Provinces.	I. General Diseases A.	General Diseases B.	II. Local Diseases. 1. Nervous System.	2. Eye.	3. Ear.	4. Nose.	5. Circulatory System.	6. Absorbent System.	7. Ductless Glands.	8. Respiratory System.	9. Digestive System.	10. Urinary System.	11. Generative System.	12. Organs of Locomotion.	13. Cellular Tissue.	14. Cutaneous System.	III. Conditions.	IV. Poisons.	V. Wounds and Injuries.	VI. Surgical operations.
Western Province.																				
Remained 31st December 1882	10	186	277	–	–	1	4	–	–	9	24	15	8	4	4	40	17	–	21	1
Since admitted - -	522	1,562	236	57	10	11	36	12	–	274	1036	471	226	54	207	794	201	19	784	10
Total - - -	532	1,748	513	57	10	12	40	12	–	283	1060	486	234	58	211	834	218	19	805	11
Discharged - - -	503	1,370	176	54	9	10	32	10	–	242	777	464	222	52	205	776	179	15	742	10
Died - - -	17	169	53	–	–	–	8	–	–	33	245	6	6	3	1	18	39	3	35	1
Remaining 31st December 1883	12	209	284	3	1	2	–	2	–	8	38	16	6	3	5	40	–	1	28	–
North-western Province.																				
Remained 31st December 1882	9	19	2	–	–	–	2	–	–	6	8	3	1	–	3	43	6	–	6	–
Since admitted - -	212	296	14	6	–	2	1	6	–	89	191	43	14	12	26	350	45	7	146	11
Total - - -	221	315	16	6	–	2	3	6	–	95	199	46	15	12	29	393	51	7	152	11
Discharged - - -	199	269	12	6	–	1	2	6	–	71	135	44	12	10	27	362	43	6	133	10
Died - - -	16	30	4	–	–	1	1	–	–	21	57	1	–	2	1	4	8	1	14	–
Remaining 31st December 1883	6	16	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	3	7	1	3	–	1	27	–	–	5	1
Southern Province.																				
Remained 31st December 1882	4	21	1	–	1	–	1	–	–	–	2	10	–	3	4	31	–	–	9	–
Since admitted - - -	191	456	26	10	–	2	2	–	1	57	135	148	44	21	55	399	7	2	332	–
Total - - -	195	477	27	10	1	2	3	–	1	57	137	158	44	24	59	430	7	2	341	–
Discharged - - -	187	422	23	10	1	2	2	–	1	45	112	152	32	19	57	400	7	2	322	–
Died - - -	2	28	4	–	–	–	1	–	–	8	22	1	1	2	–	1	–	–	14	–
Remaining 31st December 1883	6	27	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	4	3	5	11	1	2	29	–	–	5	–
Northern Province.																				
Remained 31st December 1882	7	10	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2	3	1	–	5	1	61	–	–	2	–
Since admitted - - -	157	128	9	1	1	2	–	–	–	29	92	17	4	31	12	458	5	–	72	4
Total - - -	164	138	9	1	1	2	–	–	–	31	95	18	4	36	13	519	5	–	74	4
Discharged - - -	156	122	7	1	1	2	–	–	–	28	81	17	4	36	13	469	5	–	71	4
Died - - -	6	5	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	2	10	–	–	–	–	5	–	–	2	–
Remaining 31st December 1883	2	11	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	4	1	–	–	–	45	–	–	1	–
Eastern Province.																				
Remained 31st December 1882	2	8	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2	–	–	–	–	14	–	–	–	–
Since admitted - - -	117	83	10	1	–	–	1	–	–	19	76	11	3	3	16	119	10	–	48	–
Total - - -	119	91	10	1	–	–	1	–	–	19	78	11	3	3	16	133	10	–	48	–
Discharged - - -	118	86	8	1	–	–	1	–	–	16	64	11	3	1	14	119	8	–	45	–
Died - - -	–	1	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	3	11	–	–	–	–	3	2	–	2	–
Remaining 31st December 1883	1	4	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	3	–	–	2	2	11	–	–	–	–
Central Province.																				
Remained 31st December 1882	13	51	6	–	–	1	1	–	–	2	24	10	2	–	2	48	28	–	20	–
Since admitted - - -	668	1,576	87	73	8	8	12	2	–	350	1027	290	92	21	140	668	391	16	518	19
Total - - -	681	1,627	93	73	8	9	13	2	–	352	1051	300	94	21	142	716	419	16	538	19
Discharged - - -	647	1,307	66	62	8	9	9	2	–	259	600	278	82	18	136	662	341	15	475	16
Died - - -	27	225	17	3	–	–	2	–	–	77	403	5	7	1	1	10	78	1	40	2
Remaining 31st December 1883	7	95	10	8	–	–	2	–	–	16	48	17	5	2	5	44	–	–	23	1
Total - -	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–

The number treated in the 24 Government Civil Hospitals and seven District Hospitals amounted
Total number
Total number of deaths 1,835, or

De Soyza Lying-in Hospital, the Lunatic and Leper Asylums, the Lock Hospital at the seven district Hospitals for the Year 1883.

VII. Human Parasites.	VIII. Congenital Malformation.	Total.	For Diet.	Servants.	Equipment.	Contingencies not included under the foregoing heads.	Salaries of Medical Officers.	Total.	Amount recovered for maintenance of patients in Hospital.	Balance remaining on hand at the end of the year after dieting sick merchant seamen.
			Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.
1	-	622								
1	-	6,523								
2	-	7,145	64,049 92	24,364 11	10,806 35	6,626 65	28,950 00	135,297 03	2,215 83½	395 99
1	-	5,851								
-	-	637								
1	-	657								
-	-	108								
-	-	1,471								
-	-	1,579	7,849 51	3,783 65	1,098 05	817 02	7,000 00	20,548 23	586 32	—
-	-	1,348								
-	-	161								
-	-	70								
-	-	87								
-	-	1,888								
-	-	1,975	11,660 31	6,241 36	1,585 56	1,690 66	9,200 00	30,377 89	494 04	—
-	-	1,796								
-	-	84								
-	-	95								
-	-	92								
-	-	1,022								
-	-	1,114	6,264 52	2,062 94	320 17	748 11	3,900 00	13,295 74	19 00	—
-	-	1,017								
-	-	31								
-	-	66								
-	-	26								
-	-	517								
-	-	543	3,412 45	1,755 50	503 72	303 45	7,000 00	12,975 12	65 57	—
-	-	495								
-	-	23								
-	-	25								
-	-	208								
-	-	5,966								
-	-	6,174	31,339 11	17,793 10	6,122 47	4,294 19	31,000 00	90,548 87	8,992 84½	—
-	-	4,992								
-	-	899								
-	-	283								
Total	-		124,575 82	56,500 66	20,436 32	14,480 08	87,050 00	303,042 88	12,373 61¼	—

to 17,364, the deaths to 1,792, the death rate being 10·32.
treated, 18,530.
9·90 percent of cases treated.

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Education.

18. The total number of Government schools and of grant-in-aid schools on December 31, 1883, was 1,273, being an increase of 20 schools as compared with 1882, and the total nominal attendance was 89,030 against 89,439, or a decrease of 409 scholars. The apparent decrease in the nominal attendance does not imply any decrease in the number of children receiving regular instruction, but is due to the fact that formerly all scholars returned by managers on the lists of grant-in-aid schools were included by the Director of Public Instruction in his table of attendance, whereas now such scholars as have been absent four months in all during the year are struck off, and the enumeration of scholars is made on the day of examination of each school. The number of children presented for examination in grant-in-aid schools in 1883 shows an increase over 1882 of 1,481, a satisfactory proof of the advance made in imparting regular instruction. Of the above 1,237 schools, 437 were Government schools with a regular attendance of 27,656 scholars; and 836 grant-in-aid schools with a regular attendance of 61,374 scholars. The total expenditure for the year was Rs. 477,491 15, or Rs. 10,497 75 less than the expenditure for the previous year. In the following tables are shown (1) the number of boys and girls under instruction and the per-centage of daily attendance; (2) the classification of the schools with reference to locality, standard of instruction, and proportion of population under instruction; (3) the nationality and the religion of the scholars; (4) the numbers of scholars examined in the several standards; and (5) the amounts of grants-in-aid earned by the several missions throughout the island.

(1.)

	Number of Schools.	Number of Boys. under nominal instruction	Number of Girls. under nominal instruction.	Total Number of Boys and Girls under nominal instruction.	Average Attendance.	Per-centage.
GOVERNMENT.						
English - -	27	1,699	439	2,138	1,757	82
Anglo-vernacular -	24	2,312	143	2,455	1,600	65
Vernacular - -	370	17,990	4,014	22,004	13,966	63
GRANT-IN-AID.						
English - -	94	7,854	1,076	8,930	6,467	72
Anglo-vernacular -	54	3,444	627	4,071	2,817	69
Vernacular - -	684	34,478	15,363	49,841	30,990	62
Total - -	1,253	67,777	21,662	89,439	57,597	—

(2.)

Class of Schools.	Western Province.		Southern Province.		Northern Province.		Eastern Province.	
	Schools.	Pupils.	Schools.	Pupils.	Schools.	Pupils.	Schools.	Pupils.
English - -	43	4,763	19	1,686	30	2,410	6	489
Anglo-vernacular -	27	2,310	9	863	33	2,495	3	141
Vernacular - -	481	34,668	122	7,133	239	15,837	94	5,443
Total - -	551	41,741	150	9,682	302	20,742	103	6,073
Population - -	897,329		433,520		302,500		127,555	
Proportion under instruction according to census of 1881.	1 in 21		1 in 44		1 in 14		1 in 20	

(*continued.*)

Class of Schools.	Central Province.		North-western Province.		North Central Province.		Total.	
	Schools.	Pupils.	Schools.	Pupils.	Schools.	Pupils.	Schools.	Pupils.
English - -	14	982	7	359	—	—	119	10,689
Anglo-vernacular -	12	1,028	—	—	—	—	84	6,837
Vernacular - -	72	4,082	54	4,071	8	270	1,070	71,504
Total - -	98	6,092	61	4,430	8	270	1,273	89,030
Population - -	639,361		293,327		66,146		2,759,738	
Proportion under instruction according to census of 1881.	1 in 104		1 in 66		1 in 244		1 in 30	

(3.)

Nationality.	1883.	1882.	Increase.	Decrease.
English - -	106	116	—	10
European descendants -	2,389	2,286	103	—
Sinhalese - - -	57,089	56,487	602	—
Malabars - -	27,847	28,916	—	1,069
Malays - - -	351	319	32	—
Moors - - -	1,163	1,212	—	49
Others - - -	85	103	—	18
Total - -	89,030	89,439	737	1,146

Religion.	1883.	1882.	Increase.	Decrease.
Buddhist - - -	38,522	37,583	939	—
Hindu - - -	21,604	22,775	—	1,171
Roman Catholic - -	20,310	20,594	—	284
Church of England -	3,351	3,331	20	—
Wesleyan - -	2,167	2,177	—	10
Presbyterian, Baptist, &c. -	1,534	1,388	146	—
Mahommedans - -	1,531	1,552	—	21
Others - - -	11	39	—	28
Total - -	89,030	89,439	1,105	1,514

(4.)

Standards.	No. of Children examined in Government English Schools.			No. of Children examined in Government Anglo-vernacular Schools.		
	1881.	1882.	1883.	1881.	1882.	1883.
Standard I. - - -	201	231	246	256	336	341
Standard II. - -	199	294	220	188	327	399
Standard III. - -	216	273	253	205	273	267
Standard IV. - -	196	254	218	149	175	216
Standard V. - - -	114	142	173	118	102	89
Standard VI. - -	81	77	75	75	101	98
Standard VII. - -	36	16	42	28	28	35
Standard VIII. - -	9	10	39	4	7	11
Total - -	1,052	1,297	1,266	1,023	1,349	1,456

(*continued.*)

Standards.	No. of Children examined in Government Vernacular Schools.			No. of Children examined in Grant-in-aid English Schools.		
	1881.	1882.	1883.	1881.	1882.	1883.
Standard I. - - -	3,098	3,426	3,794	757	871	670
Standard II. - - -	2,409	2,889	3,336	799	879	1,015
Standard III. - -	1,550	1,763	2,034	1,029	851	854
Standard IV. - -	812	945	1,089	910	956	837
Standard V. - - -	350	414	476	642	735	770
Standard VI. - -	94	152	185	450	514	495
Standard VII. - -	8	27	46	26	251	301
Standard VIII. - -	—	—	11	24	111	155
Total - -	8,321	9,616	10,971	4,637	5,168	5,097

(*continued*).

Standards.	No. of Children examined in Grant-in-aid Anglo-vernacular Schools.			No. of Children examined in Grant-in-aid Vernacular Schools.			Total.		
	1881.	1882.	1883.	1881.	1882.	1883.	1881.	1882.	1883.
Standard I. - - -	568	432	429	6,778	7,555	7,707	11,658	12,851	13,187
Standard II. - -	498	453	447	5,442	5,519	6,514	9,535	10,361	11,931
Standard III. - -	599	373	337	5,492	4,056	4,132	9,091	7,589	7,877
Standard IV. - -	357	376	330	2,655	3,203	2,717	5,079	5,909	5,407
Standard V. - - -	224	300	314	708	1,346	1,834	2,156	3,039	3,656
Standard VI. - -	116	231	259	138	347	549	954	1,422	1,661
Standard VII. - -	37	93	132	—	42	139	135	457	695
Standard VIII. - -	8	16	46	—	6	14	45	150	276
Total - -	2,407	2,274	2,294	21,213	22,074	23,606	38,653	41,778	44,690

In this return the number of students examined above Standard VIII. is not included; these amount to 144.

(5.)

Management.	English.	Anglo-vernacular.	Vernacular.	Total.	Amount of Grant.
					Rs. cts.
American - - -	15	15	106	136	26,426 25
Baptist - - -	1	4	31	36	5,263 0
Buddhist - - -	—	—	7	7	1,879 50
Church of England (C.M.S.)	8	14	141	163	24,710 25
Church of England, Diocesan	21	6	30	57	18,329 1
Private - - -	3	—	10	13	5,386 0
Roman Catholic - -	26	3	177	206	57,092 0
Sivite - - -	4	6	8	18	6,740 90
Wesleyan - - -	15	11	174	200	38,865 75
Total - -	93	59	684	836	184,692 66

Judicial Statistics.

19. It appears from the criminal statistics furnished by the Attorney General that there has been a material increase in the number of summary convictions by police courts for minor offences during the year, the figures being 12,034 in 1883 against 10,467 in 1882, while the number of convictions before superior courts for graver offences has fallen from 1,556 in 1882 to 1,377 in 1883. This result may on the whole be considered satisfactory. In 1883 there were 21 persons convicted of murder, 26 acquitted, and one who was charged was found insane. These figures, though undoubtedly high, exhibit a marked improvement on the preceding year, when 24 persons were convicted of murder and 42 acquitted.

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On the other hand there is a decided increase under the head manslaughter, the returns showing 62 convictions and 38 acquittals against 55 convictions and 22 acquittals in 1882. As in 1882, there were eight cases of rape tried, with the result of three convictions and five acquittals as against five convictions and three acquittals in the previous return. The criminal statistics of the Colony have recently given rise, as the Secretary of State is aware, to much local discussion, but this is hardly the place to enter into a consideration of the various widely different inferences that have been drawn from them. The Attorney General in reviewing the statistics for 1883 arrives at the conclusion that "although they are not such as to elate our hopes that there is "any real diminution of crime in the island neither are they "such as to alarm us that crime is on a dangerous or steady "increase in our midst;" and this opinion may be adopted as fairly correct.

GEORGE M. O'BRIEN.
June 25, 1884.

HONG KONG.

HONG KONG.

No. 17.

Governor Sir G. F. BOWEN, G.C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY.

Government House, Hong Kong,
July 16, 1884.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the "Blue Book," or Statistical Returns, of the Colony of Hong Kong for the year 1883.

2. In a Despatch of the 26th June ultimo, I mentioned the steps which I have taken with the view of causing these returns to be prepared in future at an earlier period of the year. As I observed on a former occasion, the late period at which the "Blue Books" are now forwarded from most colonies often deprives the Statistical Returns of the greater part of their practical value, and reduces what ought to be contemporary history to the level of (in Lord Plunket's fine phrase) "an old almanack."

3. My Despatch of the 18th July 1883 (already published in the "Parliamentary Papers relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions"*) contained a general account of the progress and position of Hong Kong. The fullest and at the same time the most concise report which I can forward on the political, social, and material condition of this Colony during 1883 will be found

* Presented to Parliament in August 1883 (C.—3794).

in the annexed official documents, which I now transmit for publication, together with this Despatch, viz. :—

(1.) The Speech of the Governor on opening the Session of the Legislative Council.

(2.) The Address of the Council in reply to that Speech.*

(3.) The Speech of the Governor at the close of the Session.

4. The reconstruction of the Colonial Legislature of Hong Kong has proved a complete success, and has fully justified my efforts to procure the consent of the Imperial Government to an enlargement of the unofficial element in the Council, with the view of securing a more adequate representation of the opinions and feelings of the entire community. A Chinese gentleman of worth, capacity, and position represents the resident Chinese population. Perfect harmony exists between the official and unofficial members. All have equally devoted themselves with intelligence and assiduity to the work of the past session. As I remarked in my prorogation speech, there is left little to be desired by the warmest friends of Hong Kong, except that, under the favour of the Supreme Ruler, future sessions may maintain the high character that the loyalty, moderation, and public spirit with which the present members have commenced the exercise of their privileges and the performance of their duties have already earned for the reconstructed Legislature of this Colony.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. F. Bowen.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Derby, K.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

Speech of His Excellency the Governor at the Opening of the Session for 1884 of the Legislative Council of Hong Kong.

Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council,

1. It is with feelings of much pleasure and interest that I now open the first Session of the reconstituted Legislature of Hong Kong, and have recourse to your advice and assistance in the administration of the Government.

2. It will always be one of the most satisfactory reminiscences of my long public career that I have been able to procure a more adequate representation in this Council of the community at large. I am confident that the Government will derive valuable aid from the local knowledge and experience of the unofficial members, and I also believe that you will all agree with me that there neither is, nor ought to be, any antagonism between the official and the unofficial element in this Legislature. All the

* Not printed.

HONG KONG. members alike can have no other object but to secure the general welfare, and to advance the progress of the Colony.

3. For obvious reasons, it is in the highest degree important that this Council should adhere to the constitutional forms followed by the legislatures of the other principal Crown Colonies. The address of the Governor at the opening of each annual session will contain, here as elsewhere, a general view of the financial and social condition of the Colony, and a statement of the Legislative and other measures, and of the public works proposed. So the address of the Council in reply will afford the members of the Legislature the usual constitutional opportunity of expressing their opinion of the conduct and proposals of the Government.

4. Further, in accordance with the practice elsewhere, I recommend you to appoint a Committee of Finance (which should be a committee of the whole Council), a Committee of Laws, and a Committee of Public Works, which should respectively examine in the first instance the details of every proposed vote and measure.

5. After this brief explanatory preface, I will proceed to state generally the principal subjects to which your attention will be directed during the present session. Full details will be found in the papers which will be laid before you, and in the statement of the several Heads of Departments.

6. In the first place, with regard to the paramount question of finance, it is very gratifying to be able to inform you that our position is satisfactory. The revenue of the year 1883 amounted to $1,286,500; and the *ordinary* expenditure to $1,165,700; leaving an excess of revenue over *ordinary* expenditure of $120,800. The *extraordinary* expenditure of 1883 was defrayed from the accumulated balances, and included the—

	$
Tai-tam water works - - -	90,966
Breakwater - - - -	22,510
Causeway Bay reclamation - -	9,000
Purchase of houses and lands for the new central market.	21,000
Sanitary works - - - -	30,483
Total - - -	173,959

The estimated balance to the credit of the Colony on the 31st December 1883 was $1,095,505.

7. Hong Kong is probably the only state or colony of importance which at the present day is not only without a public debt, but which possesses invested assets nearly equal to its annual revenue. However, the existing balances will not be sufficient to carry out several public works which are urgently required by this community, in addition to those "strong and

"complete measures of sanitation" which Mr. Chadwick (the Civil Engineer recently sent out from England) has reported to be absolutely necessary "for the immediate benefit of the "public health." Under these circumstances, I concur with the Executive Council in what appears to be the general opinion of the Colony, viz., that the present generation of colonists ought not to be deprived of the advantages referred to, while it cannot of course be expected to defray the entire cost of works of a permanent and reproductive character, and that, consequently, it will be expedient to raise, on the exhaustion of the existing assets, a moderate loan, not much exceeding the revenue of a single year. This question will not have to be decided in its details during the present session; but I desire to elicit the opinion of the Council on the principle involved.

8. The Estimates for 1884 have been already voted. The Estimates for 1885 will be laid before you in next November; which seems to be the most generally convenient period for the opening of the annual session.

9. With regard to legislative measures the following Ordinances, among others, have already become law since I assumed this Government in the spring of last year, viz., Ordinances to provide for the better regulation of vehicles and public traffic; to organise the construction of certain lines of tramway; to constitute a sanitary board; to amend the Merchant Shipping Law and provide for the enforcement of quarantine; to continue the operation of the French Mail Steamers Ordinance; to authorise the construction of certain piers and wharves. The principal Bills which will be laid before you during the present session will be the following:—

(1.) To regulate weights and measures.
(2.) To consolidate and amend the Ordinances relating to opium.
(3.) To establish a savings bank.
(4.) To consolidate and amend the laws relating to stamp duties.
(5.) To provide for the registration of medical practitioners.
(6.) To regulate prisons and prisons discipline.
(7.) To amend the Dangerous Goods Ordinance, 1873.
(8.) To amend the Preservation of Birds Ordinance, 1870.
(9.) To amend certain Ordinances relating to Criminal Procedure.
(10.) To amend the law relating to the punishment of criminals.
(11.) To amend the Bankruptcy Ordinance of 1864.
(12.) To regulate the post office and postal service.
(13.) To amend Ordinance No. 10 of 1867.
(14.) To provide for the more effectual protection of Chinese female children.

10. The report of the Commission on Smuggling, and an able and exhaustive memorandum by Mr. Justice Russell on the so-called blockade of Hong Kong by Chinese revenue cruisers

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are recommended to your attention. I have discussed this important question with the present British Minister at Peking, who will, I am confident, lend his aid towards carrying out an equitable settlement.

11. Turning to the vital subject of the public health, I am glad to inform you that the recent organisation of a Government Sanitary Board under Ordinance No. 7 of 1883, and the promulgation of new rules and regulations under that Ordinance, together with the introduction of improved contracts for the removal and disposal of waste products, have been followed by a marked improvement in the practical sanitation of the Colony. Much however remains to be done, both in respect of legislation and of structural sanitary work; but I am confident that the necessary reforms and improvements will in due course be effected by the zeal and ability of the officers to whom this branch of the public service has been entrusted, and by the cheerful acquiescence of all classes of our population in such measures and restrictions for the safety of the public health as may, with your assistance, become law. In this connexion, Bills are in course of preparation to amend and consolidate the laws relating to the public health; to amend the Building Ordinance No. 8 of 1856; to regulate the water supply, and to prevent waste. Owing however to the large and comprehensive nature of these Bills, no less than to the probable necessity of referring certain technical points to scientific authorities in England, it is possible that there may not be time for their full consideration during the present session. In this event, they will form the subject of your first deliberations in the next session. In the meantime, however, the carrying out of such works as were deemed of immediate importance to the public health has been sanctioned. These works, which are either in progress or in course of immediate initiation, include, among others, the reclamation of unhealthy tidal lands at Yau-ma-Ti and Causeway Bay; extensions and improvements of the existing system of sewers in this city; the construction of a new central market; the erection of a permanent Lazaretto on Stone Cutters' Island; the systematic dredging of the noxious foreshore along the Praya by means of steam machinery; and the general sanitation of the villages in the Colony.

12. In connexion with sanitary reform, the serious question of increased house accommodation for the population of Victoria is now engaging the attention of my Government. While every succeeding census has revealed a great increase in the population, there has not been a corresponding increase in the number of human habitations. Overcrowding in its worst form has consequently been the result, and the prevention of this evil will be dealt with in the proposed new Public Health Ordinance. However, as the true remedy is to be found chiefly in increased house accommodation for the labouring classes, it will be necessary to expand the city in a westerly direction as well as towards the east; and to create fresh building sites available for new tene-

ments. Estimates will, therefore, be presented to you for certain additional works of reclamation; for the formation of new suburbs, and for the laying out of new streets in the districts of Belcher's Bay and Causeway Bay.

13. As the hitherto existing system by which purchasers of Crown leaseholds have been able to evade their building obligations has led to a considerable area of land in and near the city remaining vacant, directions have been given that in the future no purchaser of a Crown allotment shall receive his lease until he shall have complied with the conditions of the sale, and expended the specified sum upon proper tenements. Moreover, in the villages of the Colony, the system of tenants-at-will (termed licensed squatters) whose tenures were terminable upon one month's notice, will be superseded by an improved system of small and inexpensive building leaseholds for 75 years. The inhabitants will thus gain that security for the investment of their money in suitable homes which was altogether wanting under their present squatter's license, by which they were liable to eviction upon one month's notice. These measures will, it is expected, tend to stimulate the further erection of proper dwellings, and to relieve the present overcrowded condition of several quarters of the city.

14. On sanitary and other grounds I have come to the conclusion that the drainage of the marshy lands situated within the racecourse in the Wong-nei Chung Valley is as much a work of necessity as the reclamation of Causeway Bay. A plan will, therefore, be laid before you for the drainage of these meadows and for their conversion into a public park.

15. Adverting to other important public undertakings, which have received legislative sanction, I am glad to inform you that the breakwater at Causeway Bay, intended to form a harbour of refuge for the boat population during typhoons, has been satisfactorily completed within the amount originally estimated; that the Taitam Waterworks are steadily progressing; as is also the extension of the Government Hospital, together with the new lunatic asylum; and that the erection of the new Central School will be commenced forthwith. The new Meteorological Observatory has been finished, and will it is expected prove of practical value to the maritime interests of commerce.

16. I have pressed on the Imperial Government the importance on sanitary and other grounds of that urgently needed improvement, the connexion of the eastern and western portions of Victoria, by means of a continuous marine embankment alone the sea frontage of the military cantonments and the Royal Naval yard. I hope to be able ere long to announce a favourable decision.

17. With regard to the vital question of public instruction, the report of the Inspector of Schools for 1883 will be laid before you. I have myself visited on several occasions, among the other public establishments, the chief educational institutions in this Island. Their condition is generally satisfactory. The new

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Central School or Victoria College is much needed, and will provide accommodations for at least 700 students.

18. In connexion with this subject the Government proposes, with your concurrence, to follow the precedent of other colonies by sending, in alternate years, in accordance with regulations which will be submitted to you, two of the most promising students of our chief colleges, selected by competitive examination, to complete their professional education in England, especially in Law, Medicine, and Civil Engineering.

19. Those minor posts in the public service which are at the disposal of the Governor, were wisely thrown open by my predecessor to competitive examination, without distinction of race or creed. A much needed stimulus has thus been given to general education, while the Government will secure a constant supply of eligible candidates for the several Departments.

20. A report will be laid before you showing the considerable progress already made in the afforestation of this Colony. I have directed the introduction of several thousand plants of the Australian *Eucalyptus*, a tree which furnishes valuable timber, and also exercises a marked sanitary influence, as experience in many tropical and semi-tropical countries has amply proved.

21. You will perceive from papers on the table that it has been necessary to procure a new supply of arms for the police; for the care of which, and for the proper drill and instruction of the corps, you have already made provision.

22. The Imperial Government, on my recommendation, has presented a full equipment of guns and rifles to the Hong Kong Volunteer Artillery; which body it is hoped will furnish a valuable addition to the numerical strength of the garrison.

23. I have represented to the Imperial Government in strong terms the necessity of completing the fortifications of this important naval and military station and mart of commerce. Without refering to the value of the other and manifold interests, both Imperial and Colonial, which are at stake, I may remind you that official statistics show that the tonnage of the shipping entered at the port of Hong Kong in the year 1883 exceeded 5,000,000 tons; that is, it exceeded the tonnage of the shipping entered at the port of London in 1843, the year in which Hong Kong was annexed to the British Crown, at a period when this island was little more than a barren rock, uninhabited save by a few Chinese pirates and fishermen.

24. I have now, honourable gentlemen, referred to the principal subjects which will be submitted for your consideration during the present session. Governors and Legislatures should speak by their actions; and it is my confident hope that our united efforts will, by the blessing of Divine Providence, promote the general welfare and prosperity of all races and classes in this Colony.

G. F. BOWEN.

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SPEECH of HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR at the PROROGATION of the SESSION of the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF HONG KONG, 3rd July, 1884.

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,

1. The business of the Session, which has lasted for more than four months, having now been brought to a close, I am enabled to release you for a time from your attendance in Council.

2. During the recess, several measures of importance, to which your attention has in some cases been already directed, will be matured by my Government, and will be submitted for your consideration at your next meeting. I believe that it is universally agreed that the public convenience will be best consulted by opening the annual session of the Council in the month of November of each year.

3. I thank you, in the name of the Queen, for the supplies which you have granted for every branch of Her Majesty's service in this Colony. It will be the duty of my Government to exercise a watchful supervision over their expenditure, and to practise such economy as may be consistent with the efficiency of the several Departments. As you are already aware, it has been my object to reserve as much money as possible for the prosecution of the important sanitary and other public works which are urgently required. The Report recently laid before you by the Acting Auditor General shows that the probable assets of the Colony on the 1st January 1885 will amount to $659,402. This sum will probably suffice for next year's expenditure on the extraordinary works connected with sanitation and the increased water supply, so that it will not be necessary before the close of 1885 to take any steps for raising the small loan not to exceed one year's revenue, which you have already sanctioned in principle. It will be recollected that Hong Kong is one of the very few communities in the world which is now absolutely without a public debt.

4. With regard to legislation; twenty bills have become law during the session. Of these several are of much public importance, and received your careful attention; such are, in particular, the Ordinances for the registration of medical practitioners; for the facilitation of the business of savings' banks; for the regulation of the Post Office; and for the re-arrangement of the stamp duties; together with several measures amending former Ordinances which experience had proved to be defective. It may be confidently expected that valuable and permanent results will be developed from legislation of such a character, based on no abstract theories, but on practical experience, and neither impaired by haste, nor influenced by favour, nor impeded by faction.

5. With regard to public works, I am happy to be able to announce that a large instalment of the sanitary improvements sanctioned by you has already been accomplished. The reclamation of the unhealthy lands at Yaumati, on the Kowloon Peninsula, is nearly completed, and the reclamation from the sea at Causeway Bay will be finished before the end of this year. In

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both these localities, extensive areas will be thrown open for building purposes. Moreover, under arrangements with several owners of marine allotments in that quarter, the construction of sea-walls and embankments has also been initiated at the western extremity of the city, and the early erection is expected of an important suburb in that neighbourhood.

6. Owing to the length of the negotiations with the War Office and the Admiralty, I have not yet received the final decision of the Imperial Government on the proposal to unite the Eastern and Western Prayas by an embankment and road in front of the naval and military establishments. But steam-dredging machinery has already arrived from England, and will shortly be put into operation along the noxious foreshore. An aggregate length of two miles of new and improved main sewers has been constructed in the streets principally of the central and eastern districts, forming portion of the comprehensive system of drainage in contemplation for the entire city. But in respect of the equally vital question of private house-drainage, it has been found necessary to defer action pending the passing of the new building Ordinance, which will be presented for your consideration during the next session.

7. Among other works of public importance, the new Victoria College and the Quarantine Hospital at Stone Cutters' Island are now being actively pushed forward, while the works in the Taitam Valley in connexion with the extension of the water supply continue to make as favourable progress as the difficult nature of that undertaking will permit. Preparations are being made for the early erection of the new Central Market. The funds required to defray the cost of draining the marshy lands in the Wong-nei-chong Valley, with the view to their conversion into a public park, having been voted by you, no avoidable delay will take place in commencing a work so desirable on sanitary and on other public grounds.

8. With respect to public education, the report of the Government Inspector, which has been laid on your table, bears witness to satisfactory progress. It will be seen that "both the number "of primary schools under Government supervision in the Colony, "and the number of scholars attending such schools have been "more than doubled in the last 10 years." It is, moreover, particularly gratifying to observe that this increase extends to the female as well as to the male portion of the community. At the same time, it is certain that great advantage will be gained for the higher education through the erection of the new Victoria College, and through the foundation of Government Scholarships enabling a certain number of promising young men to complete their professional studies in England.

9. Much attention has been given during the past year to the improvement of the drill and discipline of our police corps, which is now a very efficient body. One favourable result is the diminution of serious and violent crime. Successful efforts have also been made towards the suppression of gambling-houses, an object

to which the principal members of the Chinese community rightly attach special importance, and to which the honourable member who so worthily represents in this Council his Chinese countrymen recently called attention.

10. I have now glanced at the internal affairs of this Colony under the several heads of Finance, Legislation, Public Works, Education, and Police. But, Honourable Gentlemen, it should never be forgotten that Hong Kong is the centre of British power, influence, and commerce in this quarter of the globe, and that as I know on the very highest authority the foremost statesmen of England attach far greater importance to this Colony than to other colonies of infinitely larger territorial extent. Consequently we are here deeply interested in the stirring events passing around us, and especially in the concerns of the vast neighbouring empire. I congratulate you on the prospect of permanent peace between France and China, notwithstanding some fresh disturbances in Tonquin, for the outbreak of war could not fail to prove a grave interruption to the trade of this Colony. I congratulate you also on the probable prospect of, ere very long, seeing China thrown open, through the extension of railways and telegraphs, to the influences of European commerce and civilisation. I have not omitted to suggest both to the Imperial Government and to the British Minister at Peking that it is highly desirable to press alike on the French and on the Chinese Governments the importance of opening to general trade the rich south-eastern provinces of China, and also those extensive countries in the Indo-Chinese Peninsula which have lately been brought under the rule or protectorate of France.

11. And now, honourable gentlemen, in conclusion, permit me to thank you on my own behalf, as the representative of the Queen, for the valuable advice and assistance which you have afforded me during the recent session, and for the zeal and assiduity with which you have applied yourselves to the questions of public interest which I have proposed for your consideration. It is alike my pride and happiness to recognise the cordial relations existing between myself and all the members of the Council. It is generally agreed, moreover, that your conduct has already fully justified my efforts to procure the consent of the Imperial Government to an enlargement of the unofficial element in your body, with the view of securing a more adequate representation of the opinions and feelings of the entire community. You have indeed left little to be desired by the warmest friends of Hong Kong, whether here or elsewhere, except that under the favour of the Supreme Ruler, future sessions may maintain the high character that the loyalty, moderation, and public spirit with which you have commenced the exercise of your privileges and the performance of your duties have already earned for the reconstructed Legislature of this Colony.

12. I now prorogue this Council to the 19th day of next November.

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No. 18.

Administrator W H. TREACHER to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY.

Government House, Labuan,
June 24, 1884.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Blue Book Returns for Labuan for the year 1883.

2. The *Revenue* receipts during the year amounted to $24,549.10.*

The following are the figures of revenue for the last four years, furnished to me by the Acting Treasurer :—

	$
1880 - - - - -	28,432
1881 - - - - -	22,948
1882 - - - - -	23,363
1883 - - - - -	24,549

The receipts during 1883, therefore, reached a higher figure than has been the case since the effects of the withdrawal of British capital from the coal fields were fully realised in the Colony.

The farms of opium, tobacco, spirits, fish market and pawnbroking contributed $18,840, or considerably more than half of the total revenue.

They were let for the years 1883 and 1884 at a net increase of $900 as compared with 1882.

It is, however, doubtful whether, owing to exceptional competition, the rentals obtained are not, with the exception of that for the tobacco, somewhat excessive.

The remaining receipts were of an ordinary character and call for no comment.

3. *Expenditure.*—The expenditure amounted to $21,722.00, leaving a balance in favour of the Colony on the year's transactions of $2,827.

The expenditure for the last four years has been as follows :—

	$
1880 - - - - -	32,223
1881 - - - - -	32,245
1882 - - - - -	21,643
1883 - - - - -	21,722

the first two years showing an excess of expenditure over revenue which was reversed during 1882 and 1883.

* By an error in book-keeping the revenue appears as only $23,949.10, $600 received under *Land Sales* having been entered under *Provisional Payments and Receipts.*

The reason of the sudden reduction of expenditure in 1882 has been explained by Administrator P. Leys in his report on the Blue Book Returns for that year.

Retrenchment was rendered necessary by the serious falling off of revenue consequent on the closing of the coal mines owing to the bankruptcy of the Oriental Coal Company. It has been effected by reductions of staff in nearly all the departments, including the rank and file of the police, while the appointment of Governor has been virtually in abeyance since the close of 1881, the medical officer acting as administrator on a small salary, which, however, is supplemented by the emoluments he derives from the Foreign Office as Consul General in Northern Borneo. Since the failure of the coal company the work in the civil and criminal courts has much diminished, and owing to this cause, and to the fact of Straits Settlements convicts being no longer received in the Labuan gaol, the numbers of its inmates have very much decreased, so that at the present date they amount to but 13. For these and other reasons the general work of the Colony has become lighter and the reductions in the staff cannot be said to have impaired the efficiency of the public service.

4. *Assets and liabilities.*—The balance of assets over liabilities on the 31st December 1883 was $10,098, chiefly cash balances in the hands of the treasurer, the Singapore agents, and the Crown Agents. The balance of assets at the commencement of the year had been $8,528. A sum of $23,268.82, due by the late Oriental Coal Company for rent, &c., is not included, though it would be recoverable by the sale of the machinery and other property in the island seized by the Government and still retained by it.

5. *Public Works.*—The few public buildings of the Colony were kept in good repair during the year. The same cannot be said of the roads, paths, ditches, and drains, and though, perhaps, the very small amount of wheeled traffic scarcely warrants any considerable expenditure in this direction, yet, as attention to these matters, by helping to drain the land, tends to diminish malarial fever and to improve the general health of the Colony, too great economy in this department is to be deprecated. The comfortable Government House of the Colony should be excepted from the statement of the good repair in which the buildings have been kept; but this is due solely to the ravages of the white ants which, curious to say, have attacked the brick walls as well as the planking and posts, and have effected much damage, which is now being repaired.

No new buildings were undertaken during the year, nor should any be required for some years to come.

The wharf of the late Oriental Coal Company, which had reverted to the Government, and which is used for coaling purposes by Her Majesty's ships, has unfortunately, owing to the need for retrenchment in expenditure, been allowed to fall into decay and is now past repair, and somewhat dangerous to come alongside of. The Navy keeps up a considerable stock of patent fuel at Labuan, and if the Admiralty desire to continue Labuan as a

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coaling station they may possibly deem it advisable to erect some shelter for the fuel, which is now entirely exposed to the weather, and perhaps also to build a jetty to facilitate coaling operations.

The expenditure during 1883 on works and buildings and on roads amounted to $1,503 only.

6. *Legislation.*—The only legislation of interest was the passing of an Ordinance (No. II. of 1883) to amend the Town Lighting and Sanitary Ordinance of 1882. The amended Ordinance gives larger powers to Government as regards the appointment of members of the Sanitary Committee, powers which are very necessary in a little township such as that of Victoria, inhabited by petty traders and shopkeepers of Chinese and Indian nationality, who do not look upon Labuan as their home and naturally enough are disposed to grudge the expenditure of a portion of their small profits in effecting sanitary and other improvements in the town of which they scarcely recognise the object and meaning.

By directions of the Secretary of State an Ordinance (No. III. of 1883) was passed prohibiting the public flogging of persons sentenced by the courts to be punished by whipping.

7. *Establishments.*—No changes occurred in the fixed establishments during 1883. As remarked in paragraph 3 the staff has been greatly reduced, though not to such an extent as to impair the efficiency of the public service. The work of the Colony was carried on by the following European officers:—

(1.) The administrator, who was also the medical officer and was assisted by a European apothecary, and by a European private secretary.

(2.) The treasurer.

(3.) The chief constable, who is the only European officer of police.

(4.) The gaoler.

In November 1883 the treasurer, Mr. Hamilton, proceeded to England on 15 months' leave, and his duties (treasurer, harbour and post master, superintendent of convicts and of public works, coroner, &c.) are being satisfactorily performed by Mr. A. K. Leys, the private secretary.

The total cost of the fixed establishment during 1883 was $13,940, that is more than half of the total revenue or of the total expenditure, and if to this sum is added the amount paid for

8. Pensions, viz., 2,965, a total of $16,905 is obtained, which is more than three-quarters of the entire expenditure of the Colony. The only addition to the pension list, which now amounts to 640*l.* 14*s.* 2*d.* or $3,075·40 per annum, was Jemadar Mukah of the police force, 40*l.* per annum. The pension list is likely soon to be increased by a not inconsiderable sum.

9. *Education.*—There is one free school supported by a Government grant of $100 and by voluntary subscriptions which amounted in 1883 to $171·40. The average daily attendance was 15; Malay and Chinese boys being about equally represented. Beyond a certain amount of training and discipline involved in

attending the school and obeying the commands of the master, but little permanent good results to the young scholars, whose attendance is irregular and who leave the school before they have acquired a knowledge of either English or Malay reading and writing sufficient to be of use to them in after life.

A Chinese master kept a small private school at which Chinese only was taught, and the average daily attendance was not more than five.

10. *Imports and Exports.*

The value of the imports for 1883 is returned at $371,591, a serious falling off from previous years, the figures being for

	$
1880 - - - -	803,347
1881 - - - -	874,142
1882 - - - -	611,105
1883 - - - -	371,591

A similar falling off is naturally to be found in the value of the exports, which was in

	£
1880 - - - -	791,390
1881 - - -	935,541
1882 - - - -	640,246
1883 - - - -	393,308

Labuan is simply a collecting station for the sago and jungle produce of a portion of North West Borneo and the adjacent islands, which it forwards on to Singapore, and an examination of its exports to the latter port therefore suffices to give an idea of the character of the trade. The total value of the exports to Singapore amounted in 1883 to but $221,771, the amount of £393,308 given in the returns being arrived at by adding in the first place the value of articles which have been imported from Singapore and then exported to the coast or sold to the native boats visiting the Colony. The value of the articles so exported in ships is returned at $6,803, while the value of the goods taken away in native boats is calculated to be equal to that of the cargoes imported in such boats, a return of which is kept as accurately as is possible in a free port and is put at $149,208. The exact amount of the exports is finally made up by adding in the second place a sum of $15,526 taken as the value of 2,218 tons of Muarra coal purchased as fuel for the voyage by steamers calling at Labuan. This coal is brought over in lighters from near Brunei, where it is being worked by British enterprise. The figures $221,771 do not quite accurately represent the value of the produce received from Borneo and exported from Labuan, as much of the raw sago received, before being exported, is converted into sago flour, which process increases the value between

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6 and 7 per cent. per picul at the least, taking the values as shown in the Labuan trade returns. The value of the sago so treated in Labuan and exported in 1883 was $95,690.

The figures $221,771 plus $15,526, the value of the coal purchased by calling steamers, give therefore the *full* value of Borneo produce collected by Labuan and exported, and amount to a total of 237,297 or £49,437 only for 1883. The value of the purely Borneo produce exported in the same period from Sarawak I make out to be $1,140,704, from the port of Brunei $122,450, and from the ports of North Borneo $244,200 (approximately). Sago flour was by far the most valuable export fron Labuan, and amounted to $131,488, including $35,798 worth received as flour from the coast and forwarded on to Singapore. It shows, however, a decrease as compared with the export in 1881, but an increase over that in 1882, when cholera prevailed.

Sago flour exported :—

	$
1881 - - -	142,218
1882 - - - -	98,342
1883 - - - -	131,488

Apart from the cessation of cholera this large increase as compared with 1882 is accounted for in two ways, first, by the value of the flour being declared at $2.09 per picul in 1882 and at $2.81 in 1883; secondly, by the much larger quantity prepared in the Colony itself during 1883 from the raw sago* imported from Borneo.

The figures are as follows :—

	Labuan Flour.	Borneo Flour.
	Piculs.	Piculs.
1882 - - -	19,388	13,730
1883 - - -	34,663	11,990

It is to be feared that this satisfactory increase will not be maintained, since prices of late have ruled very low indeed and the sago manufacturers are talking of reducing their outputs. The latest quotation I have heard of from Singapore was $1.95 a picul.

With the exception of coal, rice, and sago flour, there is a serious falling off in every article of export in ships in 1883 as compared with 1882, and this notwithstanding that in 1882 the cholera greatly affected the trade, while there were no unusual circumstances affecting that of 1883. I give some of the prin-

* It may be said that all the raw sago manufactured into flour in Labuan is obtained from Borneo.

cipal articles of export in ships in which there has been a decrease in value:—

Articles.	1882.	1883.
	$	$
Beeswax	3,859	1,336
Birds' nests	24,225	8,620
Camphor	7,891	3,225
Cloth	5,409	1,267
Dammar	3,706	1,373
Gutta	121,204	32,261
Pearlshell	4,220	60
Rattans	51,441	34,788
Sago, raw	3,931	1,985
Sundries	13,573	1,011
Tortoiseshell	8,477	1,410
Trepang	7,350	800

The only articles of export in ships in which there was an increase in value are:—

Articles.	1882.	1883.
	$	$
Coal	7,950	15,526
Rice	1,374	4,520
Sago Flour	98,342	131,488

The trade returns of 1882 and 1883 were kept by the same officer, and though in a free port absolute accuracy is not obtainable, still the errors, one year with another, must balance themselves sufficiently for purposes of comparison. Nevertheless I cannot help surmising that some error may possibly have crept in to help to account for the very great falling off in the trade of the Colony.

No epidemic having occurred during 1883, nor any risings or disturbances on the coast of Borneo, the decreased trade of 1883 it would seem (the returns being accepted as correct) can only be accounted for by the following causes:—

(1.) The substitution of steamers for sailing vessels and the cheap freights charged by the former owing to the excessive numbers of the local steamers; many of them, Chinese owned, trading from the Straits Settlements. In consequence of this the trade of Sooloo and of North Borneo and of the port of Brunei is carried direct in steamers from each of those countries to Singapore, without benefiting Labuan as in former years.

(2.) The establishment by the British North Borneo Company of a civilized form of Government in North Borneo, so that steamers now ply thither from Singapore direct, and the produce is not as formerly brought down in prahus to Labuan as an inter-

mediate port, while at the same time some of the collectors of jungle produce in the Sultan's territory, who are often subjected to vexatious interference from his agents, may have emigrated to a country where European Government has been established.

(3.) The acquisition of the rich river of Baram by the Sarawak Government, the trade following the flag to Kuching, the capital of that State.

There seems little possibility of materially increasing the trade of the Colony until a firm Government is established in the territories of the Sultan of Brunei, either by their falling into the hands of Europeans, as has happened to North Borneo and Sarawak, or by the Sultan accepting the services of a British Resident, and following his advice, as in Perak.

Should the British subject who has obtained mineral concessions in the Sultan's territory proceed to develop his scheme, Labuan might be benefited, provided it and not Brunei proved to be the port of shipment, and this would depend upon the locality in which the minerals are worked.

11. *Shipping.*—No sailing vessels visited the Colony in 1883. In 1882 two vessels aggregrating 1,094 tons entered and cleared.

The total number of steamers entered in 1883 with cargoes was 86, with a tonnage of 23,408 tons. None entered in ballast, and all were under British colours ; the same number and tonnage cleared. In 1882 the corresponding figures were entered with cargoes 76, tonnage 22,264 tons, in ballast 4, tonnage 1,058. Of those with cargoes 8 of 3,008 tons were foreign, and of those in ballast 2 of 87 tons were foreign. The same number and tonnage cleared.

The increase in 1883 is due to the increase in the number of steamers running viâ Labuan between Singapore, Sulu, and North Borneo ports.

12. *Mines.*—No attempt has been made to renew the efforts to develop the coal resources of Labuan, the cessation of which in 1879 so seriously damaged the position of the Colony. The Government has been careful not to dispose of the plant and machinery, in the hope that a new company might be formed which would find the necessary plant for commencing operations ready to hand. Up to the present, however, no sign of any such company being formed has been apparent, and the steamers calling here are supplied with coal from Muarra, at the mouth of the Brunei river.

13. *Agriculture.*—Nothing is now to be expected from agriculture in Labuan, as the land has been allowed to be denuded of its forests by squatters and by petty native proprietors, to whom small lots have been alienated by the Government, and the soil has in consequence become too impoverished to make it worth the while of capitalists to invest in it.

There is abundance of land suitable for gambier, pepper, and other tropical products on the opposite coast of Borneo, and should a stable Government ever be established there in either of the

ways suggested in paragraph 10, Chinese planters might be induced to try their fortune and Labuan would become the port of shipment for their produce.

14. *Health.*—The general health of the Colony in 1883 was fairly good and no epidemic occurred. Malarial fever contributed most of the cases treated in the Government hospitals. The number of such cases treated in 1883 was 77, one death resulting, and in 1882, 66 cases with no deaths. Several deaths from malarial fever occurred in each year outside the hospitals, the patients or their friends neglecting to avail themselves of Government assistance. Several fever cases were sent to the hospitals from North Borneo and from Brunei territory, and in addition to this the apothecary is of opinion that the increase in 1883 may be partly attributed to the somewhat increased rainfall, which was 151·79 inches in 1883, against 142·11 inches in 1882. No deaths occurred amongst the few prisoners in the gaol.

15. *Crime.*—There was very little crime during 1883, and no serious offences against the person. The number of criminals committed for purposes of penal punishment was only seven, and the daily average number in the gaol, including debtors and safe custody prisoners, was 19·76.

16. *General prospects.*—The review of the facts and figures displayed by the statistical returns of the Colony for 1883 is not of an encouraging nature. Labuan at the present moment is dependent solely on its trade. The returns show that this trade is decreasing in value. The causes of this decrease I have endeavoured partially to explain in paragraph 10. These causes are not likely to be diminished in force in the future, but the reverse. Sarawak trade will always go to Singapore. The port of Brunei will probably always be able to attract one steamer to take its produce to Singapore, while North Borneo, with its fine ports of Gaya on the west coast Kerdat on the north, and Sandakan on the east, will continue to export to Singapore direct, and, should it develop into a rich planting or mineral country, its own ports will amply suffice for the direct exportation of its products. The Sulu trade would seem to be permanently lost to the Colony.

There remains but the small portion of Brunei territory from the Kimanis river to Sundar point, for which Labuan would seem to be the natural port of shipment, but, as mentioned in paragraph 10, no material increase in trade can be expected thence until the Government of the country has been remodelled.

The island of Palawan will continue for some time to increase the Labuan trade ($20,000 worth of rattans were contributed by it in 1883), but already Sandakan and Sulu traders are disputing for its products on the spot with those from Labuan.

The prospect of the coal mines being re-opened appears as distant as ever, and is perhaps scarcely rendered more probable by the operations now being conducted at the rival coalfields of Muarra, only a short distance off.

On the other hand there seems no present difficulty in balancing the revenue and expenditure; and, if need be, by taking certain

LABUAN.

steps, which appear to me feasible for lessening the routine work of the departments, the expenditure might be still further curtailed, and, were the high sounding title of *Colony* discontinued and that of *trading station* or *settlement* substituted, there is no reason apparently why Labuan should not be continued as a separate station, in change of an administrator, responsible to the Colonial Office.

A little island, with no European population (except the official element), with a police force of 29 men, and prisoners averaging a dozen in number, and with criminal statistics showing for 1883 only seven penal commitments, can scarcely require a staff of six Europeans for its administration, as at present.

Were it situated conveniently in the vicinity of any other Colony the natural course would perhaps be to incorporate it with that Colony.

Singapore is the nearest Colony, but owing to the distance between the two I do not think that any actual saving would be effected by making it responsible to Singapore instead of to the Colonial Office direct.

So far as I have had an opportunity of judging recently the consular office gives more work to the administrator than does the Colony.

In conclusion, I should state that Mr. P. Leys, the administrator, went home on leave in February 1884, and that I assumed the temporary administration of the Government on the 26th of that month.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. (Signed) W. H. TREACHER,
The Earl of Derby, K.G., Administrator.
&c. &c.

NORFOLK ISLAND.

NORFOLK ISLAND.

No. 19.

Governor the Right Hon. LORD A. LOFTUS, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY.

MY LORD, Sydney, May 26, 1884.

HAVING, for some time past received pressing applications to visit Norfolk Island for the arrangement of certain affairs relating to the government of that island, I profited of the opportunity offered to me by the presence at Sydney of Her Majesty's squadron under Commodore Erskine, and also by the adjournment of Parliament during the Easter recess to perform this duty.

2. Commodore Erskine having kindly placed Her Majesty's ship "Miranda" at my disposal, I left Sydney on the 12th ultimo, and after experiencing very rough weather, and having

landed and passed a day at Lord Howe Island, I reached Norfolk Island on the morning of the 21st ultimo. I experienced great difficulty in landing from the heavy sea running, and the surf caused thereby on the shore. NORFOLK ISLAND.

3. I was met by Bishop Selwyn, the chief magistrate and the two councillors, and received a hearty welcome from the islanders assembled at the landing place, and with my private secretary and acting aide-de-camp took up my quarters at the house of the chief magistrate. In the afternoon Bishop Selwyn drove me through the island, visiting the old public buildings, the landing pier, and other localities. I was much impressed with the beauty of the island. The soil is generally very fertile, and capable of producing all fruits and tropical produce in great abundance, but agriculture is greatly neglected, partly perhaps from the absence of any regular communication with New Zealand or Australia, and consequently from the want of a market for the sale of the produce, and partly also from the innate apathy and indolence of the population, in whom climatic influences and national habits appear to have implanted a listless spirit of idleness and indifference.

4. The island is formed of undulating pastoral land, intersected with occasional crops of vegetables, and some cereals, and is well watered, the Norfolk pine growing in great size and beauty. There are fair roads through the island, the work of the convicts of former times, and they are in tolerable repair; but they are not subjected to much use, as the general mode of locomotion is on horseback. The houses I visited were clean and comfortable, mostly constructed of wood. On this subject I may observe to your Lordship that there are some houses now occupied by the members of the community, but which belong to the Government, and in which repairs are much needed. I told the chief magistrate, who mentioned this subject to me, that they must not be allowed to go to ruin, and that either the occupiers must execute the necessary repairs, or, that if the Government undertook them, they (the occupiers) would have to pay a rental charged as interest on the sum expended.

5. I visited Government House, on which I had authorised an expenditure of 100*l.* three years ago to prevent it falling into utter decay, and to render it habitable for the doctor and chaplain by whom it was then intended to be shared. The present chaplain and doctor have their own houses, but when a new chaplain is appointed, Government House is now in a perfect state of repair for habitation, and, when papered and painted, will make an admirable residence.

6. The present (or I may say the late) chaplain, over 80 years of age, is pensioned, and receives 50*l.* a year out of the salary allotted for the chaplain. His duties are now provisionally undertaken by the missionary settlement under Bishop Selwyn, who, I believe, receives the allowance of 50*l.* granted by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in London, and which was given as a

NORFOLK ISLAND.

supplementary aid to the chaplain. Bishop Selwyn expressed a hope to me that a chaplain would be soon appointed, but I do not see well how this is to be effected during the lifetime of Mr. Nobbs, who is in receipt of 50*l.* as pension of the chaplain's salary. For the present the service of the church is admirably administered under the auspices of Bishop Selwyn. I visited the church, which was the chapel of the convict settlement, found it in good order, and in every way suited for Divine Service, which is held twice on every Sunday and is well attended, the congregation exceeding generally 250.

7. In regard to the public buildings, those now in use are in good order. In one is the schoolroom, which is large and airy, and which was also used for the meeting of the elders. But I observed that great dilapidation has taken place in regard to the old public buildings and the houses which are Government property: the roofs have entirely disappeared, and the cut stone facings of the windows, &c., and other stone material have been removed. I observed to the chief magistrate that this spoliation must be put a stop to; the walls of these buildings were still good, and they might hereafter be turned to account, and I have accordingly directed him not to allow of any further removal of the materials. It is a question which I now submit to your Lordship whether it would not be advisable to sell the old materials of these buildings as they are not likely to come into immediate use, and in the course of years will become perfectly useless. It is perhaps possible that they might be utilised later, were it found practicable to extend the present pier or landing place, and the decision of this question might be for the present deferred.

8. In regard to a landing place, I have not been able to find any possibility of solving this difficulty, and still it is the most important question as regards the future prosperity and development of the island. There have been various proposals suggested at various times, but none of them have proved practicable except at a very large cost, which the funds of the island could not bear. As it now is there are times when a vessel may be unable for days to discharge or receive any merchandise. On my arrival I saw the mission schooner, which had been unable for eight days to do more than land her passengers.

9. Commodore Erskine has instructed Captain Bridge, R.N., commanding Her Majesty's ship "Espiegle," to look into and report on this question on his approaching visit to the island. I will give my careful attention to this question and will report to your Lordship later on it.

10. In visiting Government House I inspected that portion fitted up as a dispensary, where the doctor attends and where all the medical stores are kept; they were in good order. I may take this opportunity of bearing testimony to the valuable services of Dr. Metcalfe, who is generally respected and esteemed. He has lately married a niece of the chief magistrate, Mr. F. Nobbs, and considering it of essential importance to retain him as doctor in

the island, I have granted him 25 acres of land adjoining a portion on which he has built a very nice house. I consider that it is very fortunate that we have obtained so efficient a medical man, and it is therefore of consequence to retain him.

11. There is a signal station and a signal man for the purpose of communicating with ships in the offing. He informed me that he required a new signal code and flags. I have directed them to be obtained here, and will forward them by the earliest opportunity.

12. The school is now under Mr. Rossiter, the former schoolmaster, and he has an assistant. It is well conducted, and gives general satisfaction. A wish was expressed to me that the compulsory age of the children attending school should be changed from six years to seven years on the ground of distance to certain of the children and in some cases of delicacy of health. I stated that the rule 32 should be maintained, as early instruction and discipline were advisable, but that exceptions might be made either an account of distance or of health on application to the chief magistrate, and, in the latter case, on a certificate of the doctor.

13. I have forwarded to Mr. Robinson, the registrar, proper printed forms for the registry of birth, marriages, and deaths, to be forwarded half yearly in duplicate. I have also supplied him with a proper book for their entry, to be preserved in his office.

14. I consider that the time has arrived when the exclusiveness of the Pitcairners should cease. It is acting prejudicially in many respects to the future generation. The frequent intermarriages is not likely to produce a race robust and active in mind and body. Their non-intercourse with the outward world, and their indisposition to strangers is not in accordance with the spirit and progress of the age, and must prove most prejudicial to their well being. I think that many of the present generation are awakening to this opinion, and were facilities afforded to them, would willingly seek their fortunes in other lands. I am afraid also that the morality for which the original race was noted is becoming of a less severe character, and more cases of fornication have occurred lately than in previous times.

15. I visited with deep interest the Melanesian Mission under Bishop Selwyn, and was filled with admiration and surprise. It is astonishing what the zeal and resolute energy of one man can effect, and the influence which he has been able to exercise over the offspring of the savage islanders. The establishment is of considerable extent, and the pupils, including married couples, are comfortably lodged in separate houses, are well dressed, tractable and happy. There were at the time of my visit some five or six of the missionary clergy who are employed as superintendents and instructors in the various missionary districts throughout the Pacific Islands, and who, with the bishop, were about to leave for the various islands, to take to their several tribes and homes the children who had finished their instruction, and who were now to appear in their different spheres and among their different tribes as the harbingers of the gospel and of civilization. There were about 100 children and young people

NORFOLK ISLAND.

of various ages at the mission establishment. One native language called "Moto," which appears to be a sort of key to their several dialects, is spoken and taught; and in this language Divine Service is performed and sermons preached by Bishop Selwyn in a beautiful memorial chapel raised to the memory of Bishop Patteson.

The teachers and children all dine together in one large hall; nothing can exceed the docile and good behaviour of these dark Christian children, nor their respect and love for the bishop. I believe that these are the most efficacious and happy means of civilizing and Christianising these savage tribes, and that the seeds thus sown will in their due time produce a bountiful harvest. I regret to say that the funds of the mission have been lately decreased by the withdrawal of supplementary aid from England. The mission schooner, an essential element for carrying out the missionary work, for want of repairs and for want of money to effect them, had become almost unseaworthy. At this moment Lady Augustus Loftus got up a bazaar at Government House for the Melanesian Mission, and to her great satisfaction and by the liberal aid of the Sydney society was enabled to forward to Bishop Selwyn as the results thereof one thousand and twelve pounds (1,012*l.*).

16. The mission has a farm of some 900 acres, which is worked in some degree by the pupils, as means of instructing them in agricultural pursuits, and aids greatly towards the maintenance of the mission.

17. In conclusion, I will only express my fervent hope that this exemplary work of Bishop Selwyn and his praiseworthy co-missionaries may meet with that support in England which their Christian labours so richly deserve, and that their meritorious efforts to civilize and Christianise these dark children of the Southern hemisphere may be attended with the happiest results.

I have, &c.

(Signed) AUGUSTUS LOFTUS.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Derby,
&c. &c.

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PAPERS

RELATING TO

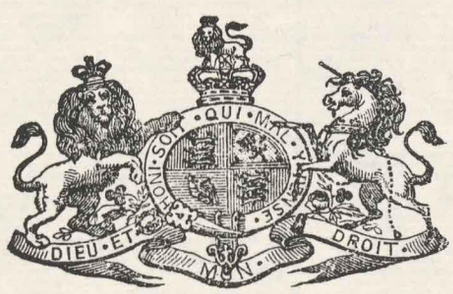
HER MAJESTY'S COLONIAL POSSESSIONS,

REPORTS FOR 1883, AND 1884.

(*In continuation of* [C.–4193.] *of August* 1884.)

Maps will be found at page 99.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
May 1885.



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NEWFOUNDLAND.

No. 1.

Governor SIR J. H. GLOVER, G.C.M.G., to the RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF DERBY, K.G.

Government House, St. John's,
December 31, 1884.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith two copies of the annual Blue Book for 1883, together with the Colonial Secretary's report thereon.

2. I regret the delay which has arisen in sending them, but it has been caused by the great difficulty in obtaining information from some of the more distant outposts.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. GLOVER,
Governor.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Derby,
&c. &c.

Colonial Secretary's Office, St. John's, Newfoundland,
December 30, 1884.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Excellency the Blue Book for 1883.

Imports.

The imports of the year amounted in value to $9,131,464, showing an excess of $781,242 upon those of 1882. The increase ranged over nearly all the articles of consumption, but was specially marked in the importation of salted pork, which from 31,200 barrels, the average of the last five years, rose to 46,181 barrels, valued at $785,077. In the aggregate the imports were the largest on record.

Exports.

The value of the exports from Newfoundland proper amounted to $7,058,738, or $57,518 over those of 1882. To these are to be added the exports from Labrador, valued at $1,528,866, showing a total export of $8,587,604. The staple articles exported were slightly in excess of the average of late years, but in the case of copper ore, the export fell from 19,264 tons, value $468,576 in 1882 to 12,352 tons, value $256,796, in 1883. This reduction is not attributable to any failure in supply at the mines, but to a more limited demand in the last year.

Revenue.

The Revenue from all sources was $1,362,282; this was the largest revenue ever collected in the Colony.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

Expenditure.

The total expenditure for 1883 was $1,234,421.

Public Debt.

The public debt was increased by $60,536, making $1,549,313 against $1,498,777 for 1882. The increase arose from the erection of New Ocean and Harbor lighthouses.

The profits of the Savings Bank are applied to the redemption of the Public Debt by an Act of the Legislature. Under this Act, the sum of one hundred thousand dollars has been redeemed, and in 1886 an equal amount will be paid off. This Act is permanent.

Savings Bank.

The deposits in the Savings Bank amounted in 1883 to $1,544,547·44 for 3,918 depositors, against $1,429,428·09 for 3,579 depositors in 1882. Increase last year $115,119·35 and 339 depositors.

Dry Dock.

Among the most important of the Acts passed in 1883 was that authorising a loan for the construction of a dry dock, a contract with Messrs. Simpson and Co., dock builders, of New York forming part of the Act.

The dock to be built of wood sufficient in size to take in the largest ships afloat except the Great Eastern.

Education.

The denominational system of education aided by Government grants, which is that existing in Newfoundland, appears to give satisfactory results, as far as may be inferred from the number of scholars attending the schools. The Returns furnished, which are not at all complete, give an aggregate of 25,349 scholars. The total expenditure for education, including inspection and training of teachers, was last year $97,660. The average cost of each pupil to the Government being $3·86.

Manufactories.

The only new establishment under this head built in 1883, was a nail factory.

The rope walk reported in operation in1882 has proved successful. Specimens of rope manufactured there were sent to the Fisheries Exhibition in London, and won two medals and diploma.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. D. SHEA,
Colonial Secretary.

His Excellency
Sir John Hawley Glover, G.C.M.G.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

No. 2.

Governor the Right Hon. Lord Augustus LOFTUS, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY, K.G.

Government House, Sydney,
January 19, 1885.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward to you herewith the Statistical Register of New South Wales for the year 1883.

I have, &c.
(Signed) AUGUSTUS LOFTUS.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Derby, K.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

The REGISTRAR GENERAL'S REPORT to the Honourable the COLONIAL SECRETARY.

[Note.—*The Statistical Register to which reference is made throughout the Report is not printed.*]

Registrar General's Department, Sydney,
October 15, 1884.

SIR,

The several parts of the Statistical Register for 1883 having been already forwarded to you and presented to Parliament I now do myself the honour to submit my Report thereon.

PART I

Population, Immigration, &c.

Population.

It was estimated that the population on the 31st December 1883 was 869,310, namely, 480,497 males and 388,813 females, being an increase of 51,842 since the previous year, or at the rate of 6·34 per cent. The increase during the year ended 31st December 1882 was at the rate of 4·63 per cent., by which it will be seen that the rate of augmentation of the population last year exceeded the previous 12 months by no less than 1·71 per cent. The natural increase by births over deaths was 19,032, and that by immigration over emigration was 32,810, so far as it could be ascertained; but in this respect there is always an

NEW SOUTH WALES.

element of uncertainty, inasmuch as thousands of persons cross the borders of the Colony of which no record can be kept. It is believed, however, that the figures given above will be below the actual numbers, and that the population is increasing at even a greater rate than is shown by the tables. The percentage of males over females has increased during the year, the proportions being 55·27 per cent. for the males and 44·73 per cent. for the females, as against 54·71 and 45·29 per cent. respectively at the close of the year 1882. This is accounted for by the large number of male adults who have arrived in the Colony during the year 1883.

Estimated population of the Colony of New South Wales for the year 1883.

	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Births during the year - -	16,014	15,267	31,281			
Arrivals by sea - - -	*46,543	20,663	67,206	62,557	35,930	98,487
Deaths during the year - -	7,116	5,133	12,249			
Departures by sea - -	†24,286	10,110	34,396	31,402	15,243	46,645
Increase during the year -	—	—	—	31,155	20,687	51,842
Estimated population on 31st December 1882 - - -	—	—	—	449,342	368,126	817,468
Estimated population on 31st December 1883.	—	—	—	480,497	388,813	869,310

* Includes 1,939 Chinese. † Includes 1,402 Chinese.

The decennial returns of the population of the Colony, and of the numbers of marriages, births, and deaths, as also the number of marriages celebrated by each of the religious denominations and by registrars, will be found on pages 2 and 3.

Marriages.

There were 7,405 marriages celebrated in 1883, as against 6,948 in 1882, being an increase of 457 on the previous year. This, however, is a falling off in the rate of increase of marriages, inasmuch as there were 664 more marriages in 1882 than in 1881, while 1881 exceeded 1880 by 712. The number of celebrations has increased in all the principal churches, with the exception of the Presbyterian, in which there was a falling off of five during the year.

Births.

The births registered in 1883 numbered 31,281, showing an excess of 1,579 over the births of the previous year. The excess of births in 1882 over those of 1881 was 709, by which it will be seen that the increase was more than doubled in 1883.

Deaths.

The deaths registered in 1883 numbered 12,249, while in 1882 there were 12,816, showing a decrease during the year of 567, notwithstanding the increase of the population.

Immigration.

The total number of immigrants who arrived in the Colony seaward during the year was 67,206; of this number 58,837, including 1,936 Chinese, came to the Colony at their own expense, and 8,369 were introduced at the public expense under the "Regulations for Assisted Immigration." The following numbers

show the nationality of the assisted immigrants, viz. :—England and Wales, 5,382; Scotland, 937; Ireland, 1,903; and other countries, 147. Of these, 6,442 were Protestants, 1,758 Roman Catholics, and 169 belonged to other religious persuasions. NEW SOUTH WALES.

The number of persons who left the Colony by sea during the year 1883 was 34,396, so that the gain to the Colony by excess of immigration over emigration was 32,810 persons as against an excess of the previous year of 19,317. What the Colony may have gained by migration between the other Colonies overland there are no means of ascertaining. Emigration.

Return No. 8 shows the number of charitable institutions in the Colony. Of the 60 hospitals, 4 of them have not furnished the information required; but of the remaining 56 the number of persons admitted, discharged, and who died is shown, as also the receipts and disbursements thereof. The number of cases admitted into the Sydney Hospital during the year 1883 was 3,118. There were 2,796 patients discharged, and 309 died. On the 31st December there remained in that institution 221 persons. 8,904 paupers had received out-door relief during the twelve months. The receipts in aid of the Sydney Hospital during the year were as follows :—From the Colonial Treasury, 30,377*l.*; and from voluntary contributions, fees, &c., 4,575*l.*, making a total of 34,952*l.* The total disbursements amounted to 37,772*l.*, but this included 18,057*l.* expended on the building. The aggregate number of admissions to the other hospitals from which returns have been furnished was 4,567. There were also 4,063 discharges and 487 deaths. The receipts for these institutions during the year 1883 were 45,722*l.*; namely, 20,795*l.* from the Treasury, and 24,927*l.* from voluntary contributions, fees, &c. The disbursements amounted to 46,186*l.*, which included 10,609*l.* expended on the hospital buildings. The gross amount received for the hospitals of the Colony during the year was 80,675*l.*, of which 51,172*l.* was paid from the Treasury, and 29,503*l.* from voluntary contributions, &c. Charitable Institutions. Hospitals.

For benevolent asylums the total amount received for the year was 30,407*l.*, of which amount 29,012*l.* was contributed from the Public Treasury, and 1,395*l.* was raised from voluntary subscriptions, &c. This shows a falling off in voluntary aid of 1,482*l.* as compared with the previous year. The cost of maintaining the three establishments at Hyde Park (Sydney), Parramatta, and Liverpool amounted to 19,078*l.* Benevolent asylums, &c.

The total number of admissions to the benevolent institutions during the year (including 350 children and births) was 3,476, and the number of discharges (including 488 children) was 3,187. There were 492 deaths, and at the close of the year there were 1,835 persons remaining.

The two benevolent societies at Bega and West Maitland were maintained at a cost of 618*l.* The receipts towards their support were 690*l.*, of which amount 248*l.* was paid to the West Maitland Institution from the Public Treasury; the remainder was raised

NEW SOUTH WALES.

by voluntary contributions. The Bega Society afforded out-door relief only to 27 persons at a cost of 33*l.* In the Maitland institutions, 37 were admitted during the year, 33 were discharged, and one died. There were 16 remaining at the end of the year. In addition to these, out-door relief was afforded to 218 persons.

Orphan and industrial schools.

To the orphan and industrial schools, nine in number, the Public Treasury contributed 27,880*l.*, and the sum of 11,104*l.* was the result of voluntary contributions, fines, fees, &c. Out of the latter sum 210*l.* was received by the Sydney Female School of Industry, which institution does not receive any support from the Treasury. The number of inmates in these institutions on the 31st December 1882 was 1,999. There were 449 admitted, 633 discharged, and 20 died during the year 1883, leaving 1,735 on the rolls on the 31st December.

Hospitals for the insane.

At the beginning of the year 1883, the total number of insane persons in the various hospitals for the insane was 2,307, namely, 1,430 males and 877 females. The admissions during the year were 322 males and 325 females. There were 167 males and 231 females discharged, and 111 males and 45 females died during the same period. So that at the end of the year there were 1,274 males and 926 females remaining in the several establishments. These figures show an improvement on those of 1882, inasmuch as last year there were 188 fewer admissions than during the previous 12 months. This improvement was especially apparent in the males, as there were 218 fewer admissions last year than the year before, while the admissions of females increased by 30. There was, however, a falling off in the number of discharged, as only 527 left these institutions in 1883, as against 601 in 1882. The total amount received in aid of these institutions was 145,222*l.* This sum was expended in maintenance, repairs, alterations, and additional buildings, including 62,821*l.*, the cost of erecting a new lunatic asylum at Callan Park.

Miscellaneous.

Under the head Miscellaneous there are seven charitable institutions, five of which are supported entirely by voluntary contributions; the other two, Infants' Home, Ashfield, and the Hospital for Sick Children, Glebe, received 1,737*l.* from the Treasury, and 2,108*l.* from voluntary contributions.

The total amount received on account of charitable institutions for the year 1883 was 302,117*l.*, of which 255,271*l.* was provided by the Colonial Treasury, and 46,846*l.* was raised by voluntary contributions, fees, &c.

Suicides.

On pages 10 and 11 will be found returns showing the number of suicides during the year and the previous nine years, and also the number of cases of disease treated in the various gaols and police gaols during the year 1883. With reference to the suicides, it will be found that the per-centage as compared with the population has been gradually decreasing during the decennial period. The per-centage in 1874 was 1·09 in every 10,000 of the population, and in 1883 it had fallen off to 0·68 in every 10,000 persons.

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Rates of wages, &c. price of provisions, &c. Clothing.

On pages 12 to 14 are given decennial tables of the average rate of wages for the different classes of labour in the Colony, and the average prices of clothing and provisions. It is remarkable how few changes have been made in the rate of remuneration for artizans during the last few years.

PART II.

Religion, Education, and Crime.

Ecclesiastical.

Table No. 17, Ecclesiastical Return, shows the amounts received as salaries and allowances, and the amounts paid from the church and school estates to four of the religious denominations.

The following abstract gives the sums received by each denomination :—

Denomination.	Salaries and Allowances.	Church and School Estates.	Total.
	£	£	£
Church of England - -	6,082	3,291	9,373
Roman Catholic - -	3,246	2,362	5,608
Presbyterian Church of New South Wales - - -	1,407	581	1,988
Wesleyan Methodist - -	1,324	321	1,645

The following table shows the number of ministers of religion registered under the Act 19 Victoria, Nos. 30 and 34, with the number of their churches, chapels, &c., the number of individual sittings, and the average attendance :—

Denomination.	Number of Ministers.	Churches and Chapels.			All other Places used for Public Worship.
		Number.	Number of Individual Sittings.	Average Attendance.	Average Attendance.
Church of England - -	245	507	80,026	62,517	13,445
Roman Catholic - - -	201	346	49,126	64,576	6,357
Presbyterian Church of New South Wales - - -	96	157	25,058	15,218	6,871
Presbyterian Synod of Eastern Australia - - -	12	20	3,390	1,545	997
Other Presbyterian Churches -	1	9	1,095	715	606
Wesleyan Methodist - -	112	308	43,570	27,726	10,674
Congregational - - -	43	50	14,610	9,003	177
Baptist - - - -	17	21	3,700	2,340	587
Primitive Methodist - -	17	63	9,338	5,950	900
Particular Baptist - -	3	3	830	345	120
United Methodist Free Church -	—	9	1,470	600	40
United Free Gospel Church -	1	—	—	—	—
Protestant Episcopal Church (U.S.) - - - -	1	—	—	—	—
German Lutheran - -	1	2	460	340	—
Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran - - - -	1	—	—	—	—
German Evangelical - -	1	1	60	40	65
Church of Christ - - -	2	3	750	560	—
Independent (unconnected) -	1	1	150	187	126

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Denomination.	Number of Ministers.	Churches and Chapels.			All other Places used for Public Worship.
		Number.	Number of Individual Sittings.	Average Attendance.	Average Attendance.
Welsh Congregational - -	1	1	150	50	—
Hebrew Church - - -	5	2	586	377	—
Evangelical Lutheran - -	1	3	320	230	20
Unitarian - - - -	1	1	300	370	—
Catholic Apostolic - - -	1	2	144	200	21
Free Church of England - -	1	1	250	150	120
Bible Christian - - -	1	—	—	—	174
Anglo-Israelite - - -	1	—	—	—	—
Presbyterian Church of Scotland	1	—	—	—	—
Society of Friends - - -	1	1	100	20	10
Salvation Army - - -	1	10	5,900	9,000	—

Sunday schools.

The total number of children on the rolls of the various Sunday schools throughout the Colony at the end of the year 1883 was 105,162, as against 102,141 in 1882, being an increase of 3,021 or 2·87 per cent. for the year. The average attendance is stated to be 77,815, or 74·0 per cent. of the number on the rolls. The number of teachers engaged in the Sunday schools was 9,793, comprising 3,969 males and 5,824 females, being an increase of 240 males and 363 females on the numbers of teachers in 1882.

Private schools.

The private schools have increased in number since 1882 from 491 to 588, and the scholars from 19,746 to 32,107, or at the rate of no less than 62·6 per cent. This extraordinary increase is accounted for by the fact that in the return of private schools are included several establishments which in 1882 ranked as denominational schools, and were numbered amongst those which received pecuniary aid from the State.

Cost of public instruction under the Department.

The amount expended under the Department of Public Instruction during the year was 821,853*l.* The sum of 51,427*l.* was received as fees and paid into the Treasury, so that the net cost of education under the Department was 770,426*l.*, an increase of 202,938*l.* over the cost for 1882.

Public instruction.

The number of scholars in the various schools under the Department of Public Instruction in 1883 was 155,824, as against 159,490 in 1882. There were also in that year 29,651 pupils in denominational schools, making a total of 189,141 under the Department, showing a falling off in the number of pupils in the public schools of 3,666 in addition to the denominational pupils. The note at the foot of Return No. 21 explains the apparent discrepancy:—"Up to and inclusive of 1882 the annual gross enrol-
" ment or aggregate of attendances in schools under the Department
" of Public Instruction was given in the Statistical Return under
" the head of 'Numbers of Scholars'; but as the attendances of the
" same scholars at two, three, or more different schools in the year
" are counted separately in making up the gross enrolment, it
" follows that such enrolment must necessarily be largely in excess
" of the actual number of scholars. To prevent further misconcep-
" tion with regard to the numbers given, it is deemed advisable to

"furnish for 1883 the actual number of distinct individual scholars "attending the schools in the year."

The number of schools and scholars under the Department of Public Instruction in the year 1883 is shown as under:—

	Number of Schools.	Number of Scholars.
High schools and public schools -	1,360	148,116
Provisional schools - - -	226	4,966
Half-time „ - - -	106	2,008
Evening „ - - -	23	734
Totals - -	1,715	155,824

Of these 155,824 scholars there were 80,709 males and 75,115 females, and they were superintended by 2,987 teachers—1,527 males and 1,460 females.

Number of pupils under tuition.

Taking the number of pupils in the public schools and those in the private schools, 32,107, we have a total of 187,931 scholars attending the various educational establishments in the Colony. This, however, does not represent the whole of the children under tuition. In 1881, when the census was taken, there were 19,792 children being educated at home. Assuming that these children have increased at the same ratio as the population since 1881, there would be at the end of 1883 about 23,000 children being educated at home, making a total of about 212,900 pupils under tuition, exclusive of those who were being educated in the various benevolent institutions.

In the orphan schools, asylum for destitute children, deaf and dumb and blind institution, and the reformatories, there were 1,393 children receiving instruction, the cost of which is paid out of the Government funds contributed for the maintenance of those institutions. In 1882 there were 1,586 of these children, and in 1881 there were 1,592, so that it will be seen there has been a gradual diminution of the number of children in these charities during the last two years. This is particularly observable in the orphan schools, as in 1881 there were 548, and in 1883 they had been reduced to 419. In the asylum for destitute children also the falling off during the same period has been from 662 to 612. The children in the reformatories have increased from 304 to 362, and in the deaf and dumb institution from 78 to 82.

Sydney University, affiliated colleges, and Sydney Grammar School.

The total cost to the State of the Sydney University, the affiliated colleges, and the Sydney Grammar School during the year 1883 was 20,288*l.*, and the sum of 16,446*l.* was realised from voluntary contribution, fees, and other sources, making a total of

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36,734*l.* At the university there were 128 students, St. Paul's College 16, St. John's 8, St. Andrew's 23, and at the Sydney Grammar School 402.

At page 21 is given a decennial return of the number of students at the university, the number of those who have gone up for examination, and the number of those who have passed. Another return shows the number of graduates during the last 10 years; and a third gives the annual receipts and expenditure since the year 1874 inclusive. The receipts for 1883 amounted to 19,649*l.*, and the expenditure to 19,769*l.*

Art Gallery.

On page 22 is given a return of the National Art Gallery, showing that the amount received from the Government in aid thereof to the 31st December 1883 was 37,627*l.* The total amount disbursed for works of art was 32,204*l.* The total number of visitors from the day of opening, on the 22nd September 1880 to the 31st December 1881 was 140,266; during 1882, 209,468; and in 1883, 265,184; making a grand total of 614,918 visitors in 1,019 days upon which the gallery was open. The amount expended in wages, repairs, &c. was 3,095*l.* The return shows the number and description of the various works of art purchased, and a column is devoted to a description of the presentations which have enriched the gallery.

Australian Museum.

The amount received from the Government in aid of the Australian Museum for 1883 was 8,900*l.*, and the expenditure was 9,052*l.*, of which sum 5,944*l.* was paid for purchases and 3,108*l.* for salaries and wages. The number of visitors during the year was 86,114 on week days and 51,287 on Sundays; total, 137,401; as against 134,041 in 1882. The attendance increased by 4,518 persons on the week days, but decreased by 1,158 on Sundays in 1883, as compared with the previous year.

Free Public Library.

The number of visits recorded to the Free Public Library during 1883 was 155,431, as against 135,731 in 1882, showing an increase of nearly 20,000. The number of volumes, pamphlets, &c. in the library at the end of the year was 59,554, being an increase of 4,617 during the 12 months. The number of volumes presented during the year was 404, of the estimated value of 70*l.* This makes a total of 3,933 volumes, of the value of 1,940*l.*, which have been given to the institution. The amount received from the Government in aid of the library, exclusive of salaries and maintenance, was 3,084*l.* during the year.

Schools of art, public libraries, &c.

Return No. 30, on pages 24 to 27, shows that there are 125 schools of art and public libraries in the Colony. At the close of the year 1882 they numbered 79, by which it will be seen that vast strides have been made in this direction during the year 1883. The return gives the names of the institutions, the dates upon which they were first opened, whether the property is freehold or leasehold, the cost of erection of buildings, the amounts received from the Government and from private contributions during the year, the number of volumes in each institution, and the total number of visits paid to them during 1883.

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Crime.

Gaols.

The remaining portion of Part II. of the register refers to the crime of the Colony. Returns Nos. 31 and 32 show the number of prisoners received into the various gaols of the Colony during the year 1883 to have been 18,566, comprising 14,049 males and 4,517 females. Of this number, 28 were debtors—27 males and 1 female; 2,454, viz., 2,128 males and 326 females, were under committal for trial; 679—585 males and 94 females, *in transitu;* and 15,405—11,309 males and 4,096 females, were under various sentences.

Education of prisoners.

Of the total number of males received 86·50 per cent. could read and write, 2·96 per cent. could read only, and 10·54 per cent. were unable to read. Of the females received, 83·34 per cent. could read and write, 3·85 per cent. could read only, and 12·81 per cent. were unable to read.

Nationalities o prisoners.

The remaining part of the same table refers to the nationalities and religions of the prisoners, by which it would appear that of the male portion—

4,867	or 34·67	per cent.	were Australian-born.
3,793	„ 27·00	„	born in England and Wales.
3,079	„ 21·91	„	„ Ireland.
967	„ 6·88	„	„ Scotland.
1,344	„ 9·54	„	„ other countries.

Of the female portion—

1,769	or 39·17	per cent.	Australians.
779	„ 17·25	„	England and Wales.
1,677	„ 37·13	„	Ireland.
227	„ 5·03	„	Scotland.
64	„ 1·42	„	other countries.

When the census was taken in 1881, the various nationalities in proportion to the total population was as follows:—

Of the male population—

63·05	per cent.	were Australian-born.
17·21	„	„ England and Wales.
8·88	„	Ireland.
3·85	„	Scotland.
7·01	„	other countries.

Of the female population—

74·25	per cent.	Australian.
11·72	„	England and Wales.
9·60	„	Ireland.
2·72	„	Scotland.
1·71	„	other countries.

Assuming that these proportions have not materially changed in the interim, we find that the Australian-born are by far the least criminal, as will be seen by the above figures, for while they comprise more than two thirds of the total population they form

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but little more than one third of the criminal class. Leaving out decimals, we find that there are:—

Of the males—

	In every 100 of the Population.	In every 100 Prisoners.
Australian-born - - -	63	35
England and Wales - -	17	27
Ireland - - - -	9	22
Scotland - - - -	4	7
Other countries - - -	7	9

Of the females there are—

	In every 100 of the Population.	In every 100 Prisoners.
Australian - - - -	74	39
England and Wales - -	12	17
Ireland - - - -	9	37
Scotland - - - -	3	5
Other countries - - -	2	2

While by the above the Australian-born are shown to stand highest in the scale of morality, the natives of Ireland are the lowest.

Religion of prisoners.

Of the religions of the male prisoners—

7,104 or 50·56 per cent. were Protestants.
6,612 „ 47·06 „ „ Roman Catholics.
334 „ 2·38 „ belonged to other persuasions.

Of the females—

2,019 or 44·71 per cent. were Protestants.
2,471 „ 54·72 „ „ Roman Catholics.
26 „ 0·57 „ „ other persuasions.

Taking the whole of the male population—

68·37 per cent. were Protestants.
26·40 „ „ Roman Catholics.
5·23 „ „ other persuasions.

Of the female population—

69·17 per cent. were Protestants.
29·11 „ „ Roman Catholics.
1·72 „ „ other persuasions.

Leaving out decimals, we have of the males—

	In every 100 of the Population.	In every 100 Prisoners.
Protestants - - -	68	51
Roman Catholics - - -	27	47
Other persuasions - - -	5	2

Of the females—

	In every 100 of the Population.	In every 100 Prisoners.
Protestants - - -	69	45
Roman Catholics - - -	29	54
Other persuasions - - -	2	1

By the above figures it will be seen that while the Protestants form nearly seven tenths of the total population, they only contribute about one half to the criminal class. The Roman Catholics, who comprise about three tenths of the total population, contribute fully one half to the criminal class, as shown in Table No. 36.

Supreme and circuit courts and courts of quarter sessions.

Returns Nos. 37 and 38, on pages 56 to 64, show the number of supreme and circuit court cases and quarter sessions cases in 1883. In the superior courts there were 111 cases of felony and 49 of misdemeanor, against 190 and 57 respectively in 1882, being a falling off of 87 cases. The number of cases at the quarter sessions was 1,507, as against 1,599 in 1882, showing a falling off of 92 cases.

Return No. 39 is a decennial table of the number of convictions for felonies and misdemeanors. The number in 1883 was 1,012, as against 1,066 in 1881 and 1,065 in 1882, showing an improvement of 53 cases in the last 12 months.

The remaining tables in Part II. show the number of executions, the offences reported to the police, the number of summonses, summary convictions, apprehensions, &c.

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PART III.

Trade and Commerce.

Imports and exports.

The first return, No. 48, on pages 74 and 75, shows the total value of the imports and exports of the Colony during the year 1883, by which it will be seen that the total value of the imports was 20,960,157*l.*, and of the exports was 19,886,018*l.* In 1882 the value of the imports amounted to 21,281,130*l.*, and the exports to 16,716,961*l.*, so that there was a decrease in the imports to the value of 320,973*l.*, and an increase in the exports to the valve of 3,169,057*l.* The increase in the value of the total trade of the Colony amounted to 2,848,084*l.* The imports per head of the estimated mean population was 24*l.* 18*s.* 8*d.* and the exports 23*l.* 13*s.* 2*d.*; so that the total trade per head of the population was 48*l.* 11*s.* 10*d.*

Imports.

The following table shows the values of the imports from the United Kingdom, British Possessions, and Foreign States for the years 1881, 1882, and 1883:—

—	1881.	1882.	1883.
	£	£	£
United Kingdom - -	8,986,838	11,155,917	10,624,081
British Possessions - -	6,633,107	7,924,479	8,196,287
Foreign countries - -	1,789,381	2,200,734	2,139,789
	17,409,326	21,281,130	20,960,157

By the above figures it will be seen that, although there was a small falling off in the value of the imports between 1882 and 1883 there was an increase of over three and a half millions since 1881.

Of the value of imports in 1883 the British Colonies produced 8,196,287*l.* The following Foreign States supplied the greater portion of the remaining imports:—

	£
France - - - -	211,722
Germany - - - -	213,709
Belgium - - - -	31,162
Norway - - - -	42,815
United States - - -	922,574
China - - - -	259,108
Java - - - -	115,706
New Caledonia - - -	152,096
South Sea Islands - - -	39,374
Manilla - - - -	131,066

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Exports.

The following table shows the total value of the exports for the years 1881, 1882, and 1883 respectively :—

—	1881.	1882.	1883.
	£	£	£
To the United Kingdom - -	7,561,114	7,309,691	9,884,207
„ British Colonies - -	7,189,544	8,200,396	8,409,911
„ Foreign States - -	1,298,845	1,206,874	1,591,900
	16,049,503	16,716,961	19,886,018

Between the years 1881 and 1882 there was an increase of 667,458*l.* and between 1882 and 1883 the increase in value was 3,169,057*l.* The latter amount was made up as follows:—From the United Kingdom by 2,574,516; British Colonies by 209,515*l.*; and Foreign States by 385,026*l.*

From pages 76 to 144 are shown the imports and exports of all descriptions of merchandise during the year. The decennial returns are given on pages 145 to 170.

Produce and manufacture the Colony.

On page 171, return No. 55 gives the decennial abstract of the total value of articles exported the produce or manufacture of the Colony, by which it will be seen that there has been a steady increase from year to year, with the exception of the years 1878 and 1879, when there was a slight decrease. In 1874 the value of articles exported was 12,345,603*l.*; in 1883 the value had risen to 19,886,018*l.*, being an increase in the decade of 7,540,415*l.*, or 61 per ceut., or at the average rate of over 5 per cent. per annum. The greatest increase has, however, been during the last year, being nearly 19 per cent.

Live sto

Tables 56 and 57 are decennial returns of live stock imported into and exported from the Colony. The total value of the stock imported during the decade was 2,168,422*l.*, and of that exported was 8,952,257*l.*, the excess of value in favour of exports being 6,783,835*l.*

The decennial return No. 58, of the value and quantity of wool exported from and the produce of the Colony, shows a very large increase in the decade. The quantity has increased from 75,000,000 lbs. in 1874 to over 188,000,000 lbs. in 1883; and the value has nearly doubled, namely, from 5,010,125*l.* to 9,598,761*l.* Of the latter amount Great Britain absorbed wool to the value of 6,027,919*l.* Victoria was the recipient of 2,496,610*l.* worth, most of which was no doubt sent *viâ* Melbourne to Great Britain.

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Shipping inwards.

Shipping.

The number of vessels which entered at the ports of the Colony, with their tonnage and number of crews, was as follows :—

—	British.		
	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.
Sailing - - - -	951	525,776	12,968
Steam - - - -	1,398	1,175,718	52,330
	2,349	1,701,494	65,298

—	Foreign.		
	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.
Sailing - - - -	158	106,448	2,040
Steam - - - -	80	127,247	7,164
	138	233,695	9,204

—	Total.		
	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.
Sailing - - - -	1,109	632,224	15,008
Steam - - - -	1,478	1,302,965	59,494
	2,587	1,935,189	74,502

The number of vessels, their tonnage and crews, entered at the various ports of the Colony, are shown by the following :—

—	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.
Sydney - - - -	1,569	1,260,595	54,981
Newcastle - - - -	945	656,916	18,491
Grafton - - - -	2	202	12
Tweed River - - -	35	3,477	329
Eden - - - -	21	9,112	500
Wollongong - - -	15	4,887	189
	2,587	1,935,189	74,502

The total number of vessels entered in 1882 was 2,437, and their tonnage 1,686,620. This shows an increase of the shipping inwards of 150 vessels and 248,569 tons.

Shipping outwards.

The number of vessels which cleared at the ports of the Colony, with their tonnage and number of crews, during the year 1883 was :—

—	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.
Sailing - - - -	1,195	671,817	15,064
Steam - - - -	1,579	1,399,231	62,753
	2,774	2,071,048	77,817

The following shows the number of vessels, &c., which cleared at each port of the Colony :—

—	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.
Sydney - - - -	1,370	1,115,411	49,935
Newcastle - - -	1,305	926,956	26,290
Grafton - - - -	4	469	26
Tweed River - - -	35	3,368	323
Eden - - - -	31	16,678	920
Wollongong - - -	29	8,166	323
	2,774	2,071,048	77,817

The number of vessels which cleared outwards in 1882 was 2,340, and their tonnage 1,610,045, so that there was an increase in the outward trade of the Colony in 1883 of 434 ships, carrying 461,003 tons.

Vessels built.

There were during 1883 102 vessels built in the Colony, of an aggregate of 7,253 tons, of which 52 were steamers, with a capacity of 5,368 tons, and of the remainder 12 were schooners, 1 barquentine, 4 ketches, 3 cutters, and 30 luggers.

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The number of vessels built in 1882 was 65, with a carrying capacity of 4,734 tons, showing an increase in favour of 1883 of 37 vessels and 2,519 tons.

Vessels registered.

The number of vessels registered in the Colony was 155, and their aggregate register was 19,972 tons.

Bonded warehouses.

Return No. 70, on page 180, gives the stocks of merchandise in bonded warehouses at the end of the year 1883.

Customs, revenue, &c.

The total amount of revenue collected by the Customs Department from the 1st January to the 31st December 1883 inclusive, was 1,527,863*l.*, being an increase over the preceding 12 months of 13,600*l.* The largest amounts of revenue were derived from the following sources:—Wine, beer, and spirits, 814,920*l.*; tobacco and cigars, 138,894*l.*; tea, 75,719*l.*; sugar (refined and raw), 51,580*l.*; opium, 14,135*l.*; rice, 13,855*l.*; dried fruits, 50,597*l.*; specific duties, 266,579*l.* For pilotage, harbour and light rates and removal dues, the sum of 49,484*l.* was realised.

PART IV.

Mills and Manufactures.

Grain mills.

The number of mills for grinding and dressing grain in the Colony at the close of the year 1883 was 154, of an aggregate of 2,847 horse-power. In these mills there were 685 hands employed, and 390 pairs of stones were in operation. Of these mills there were—

145	steam, of 2,759	horse-power.
9	water, of 88	,,
154	2,847	,,

Return 72, on page 184, shows the number and power of mills for grinding and dressing grain in each electoral district of the Colony in 1883, and the next is a decennial return on the same subject.

Manufactories, works, &c.

Return 74, on pages 186 to 189, shows the number of manufactories, works, &c. in each of the electoral districts, by which it will be seen that there were 20,218 of such establishments at work at the end of 1883. This, however, includes a large number of reaping machines, hay-cutting machines, chaff-cutters, and other machines not absolutely used in manufactures. The decennial return bearing upon this subject shows an increase of over cent. per cent. since the year 1874.

The next return, No. 75, on pages 190 and 191, shows the number of manufactories and works in the absolute production of manufactures within the Colony. The total number was 3,111, employing 33,399 hands—31,003 males and 2,396 females. This does not, however, show nearly the total number of artizans and mechanics who were employed in the Colony, inasmuch as there are a vast number of both sexes engaged in various trades which are not included in this return.

The following table shows the number of works and manufactories in 1883, and the number of hands employed in connexion with the various industries included in the return No. 75 :—

	Number.	Hands employed.
Connected with or dependent on agriculture - -	204	2,777
Working on raw material the production of the pastoral interest - - - - - - -	307	2,937
Manufacture of food of which the raw material is not the produce of agriculture, and of articles of drink, &c. - - - - - -	307	2,379
Building materials and plastic manufactories - -	939	6,859
Machine manufactories, brass, lead, and iron works -	215	3,335
Miscellaneous works and manufactories - -	1,139	15,112
	3,111	33,399

The above shows an increase on the year 1882 of 75 manufactories and works, and 739 hands.

Woollen manufactories

There were nine woollen manufactories in operation during 1883 ; but one of these has declined for the last seven years to furnish me with any information as to the production of that particular establishment. From the other eight mills the quantity of cloth and tweed manufactured was 202,000 yards. The decennial table shows considerable fluctuations in the manufacture of woollen goods, and a considerable falling off since 1874.

Soap and candles.

Of soap and candles the manufacture of 34 establishments produced 121,794 cwt. of the former and 25,069 cwt. of the latter during the year 1883.

Tobacco.

The quantity of tobacco manufactured at 14 factories amounted to 19,452½ cwt. ; this shows a falling off, as compared with 1882, of 3,362 cwt. ; but it is an increase on the production of any former year of the decade, with the exception of 1879, when 24,654 cwt. was manufactured.

Sugar, &c.

The sugar manufactured in 1883 amounted to 314,470 cwt. at 93 mills, 79 of which, with an aggregate of 2,651 horse-power, were worked by steam, and 14 with 44 horse-power, were worked by cattle. The same mills produced 490,138 gallons of molasses. This shows an increase on the quantity of sugar manufactured in 1882 of 103,901½ cwt., and a decrease in the quantity of molasses of 133,105 gallons.

Sugar refineries.

The two sugar refineries at work in the Colony during the year produced 514,500 cwt., an increase of 6,000 cwt. as compared with 1882.

Tallow and lard.

There were 42 boiling-down establishments at work during the year 1883, at which were slaughtered 333,041 sheep and 21,199 horned cattle, producing 222,485 cwt. of tallow. 730 pigs were killed, which produced 4,320 lbs. of lard. A large quantity of tallow is annually made from the refuse of butchers' shops.

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Colonial distilled spirits.

The concluding return, No. 83, of this part of the Statistical Register shows the quantity of colonial distilled spirits made during the last 10 years. In 1883 there were 152,766 proof gallons of rum made from 31,596 cwt. of molasses.

PART V.

Monetary and Financial.

Sources of revenue, rates of discount on bills, &c.

From pages 198 to 236 is devoted to returns showing the duties, fees, &c., and all other sources of revenue specified under the respective laws and authorities by which they are derived, also the course of exchange, showing the rate per cent. per annum discount on local bills and the rate of exchange on bills on London in the year 1883, and the rates of interest allowed on deposits in the banks.

Coin and bullion.

Return No. 89, on page 236, shows the total value of coin and bullion in the Sydney branch of the Royal Mint and in the various banks in the Colony on the 31st December 1883 to have been 2,920,766*l.* Of this sum, 2,861,980*l.* was represented by coin and 58,786 by bullion.

No. 90 is a decennial return of the amount of coin and bullion in the mint and banks on the 31st December in each year.

Total amount of coin in the Colony.

Return No. 92 is an estimate of coin—gold, silver, and bronze—in the Colony at the end of the year 1883. It is estimated that there was 5,427,444*l.* in gold, 401,875*l.* in silver, and 21,798*l.* in bronze; making a total of 5,851,117*l.*, of which 3,008,016*l.* was in private hands and 2,843,101*l.* in the banks.

New silver and bronze coin issued.

Return No. 93, on page 238, shows the amount of the new silver and bronze coin issued from the Sydney branch of the Royal Mint since the year 1868, and Return No. 94 shows the quantity and value of worn silver coin withdrawn from circulation since 1873.

Paper currency.

The amount of the notes of the several banks in circulation on the 31st December 1883 as shown by Return No. 95, was 1,812,336*l.*, the average for the year being 1,680,472*l.*

Bank assets and liabilities.

Return No. 96 is a general abstract of the average assets and liabilities, and the capital and profits of the various banks of the Colony for the year 1883.

The following is the aggregate, for each quarter of the year, of liabilities, assets, and dividends:—

——	Liabilities.	Assets.	Dividends.
	£	£	£
1st Quarter - - -	25,449,254	32,279,775	629,650
2nd „ - - -	25,153,296	32,138,903	629,650
3rd „ - - -	25,195,876	32,508,697	648,250
4th „ - - -	26,154,560	33,392,652	658,450

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Savings Bank of New South Wales.

Return No. 97, on page 241, shows that there were 45,442 depositors in the several branches of the New South Wales Savings Bank at the close of the year 1883, with 1,822,319*l.* to their credit. The Sydney depositors numbered 36,376, with 1,450,821*l.*, and the country depositors 9,066, with 371,498*l.* to their credit. The total amount at the credit of reserved fund was 167,860*l.* At the close of the year 1882 there were 42,274 depositors, with an amount to their credit of 1,856,641*l.*, by which it will be seen that the number of depositors had increased by 3,168 in 1883, but the amount to the credit of depositors had decreased by 34,322. The diminution in the amount of deposits is accounted for by the fact that the withdrawals were needed for the purchase of allotments of land and for building purposes. Considerable activity was displayed during the year in this respect by depositors in the provident desire to become possessed of houses of their own to live in.

The following table gives the number of depositors, and the amount to their credit, under and over certain specified sums :—

—	Number of Depositors.	Amount.
20*l.* and under - - -	22,873	128,080
Between 20*l.* and 50*l.* - -	8,627	278,188
„ 50*l.* „ 100*l.* - -	6,734	478,346
„ 100*l.* „ 200*l.* - -	6,859	762,020
„ 200*l.* „ 300*l.* - -	194	47,099
300*l.* and upwards - -	155	128,586
	45,442	1,822,319

During the year there were 9,464 old accounts closed and 12,632 new accounts opened.

Government savings banks.

At the end of 1883 there were 248 Government savings banks in the Colony. The number of accounts open at the end of the previous year was 38,853. There were in 1883, 25,009 new accounts opened and 18,141 closed, so that at the end of the year there were 45,721 accounts remaining open, with the sum of 1,183,519*l.* to the credit of depositors. The amount on deposit at the end of 1882 was 1,158,454*l.*, by which it will be seen that the number of depositors had increased by 6,868, and the deposits by 25,065*l.*

Gold received and issued at the mint.

The next return, No. 101, on page 245, gives the weight and value of gold received at the mint for coinage, and the value of

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gold coin and bullion issued, as also the revenue derived from mint charges, &c. from the opening on the 14th May 1855 to the close of the year 1883. The amount of gold for coinage received in 1883 was 374,141 ozs., of the value of 1,353,665*l.* The gold coin issued was 1,108,000 sovereigns and 220,000 half-sovereigns. 30,895 ozs. gold bullion, of the value of 124,610*l.*, was also issued. The total value of gold coin and bullion was 1,342,610*l.*

Mint revenue.

The revenue derived from mint charges and all other sources was 7,008*l.* during the year 1883.

The gold supplied to the Mint and the value thereof from the various Colonies is shown below :—

—	Ounces.	£
New South Wales - - -	121,777	450,766
Queensland - - -	196,679	679,794
New Zealand - - -	33,764	138,395
Victoria - - - -	11	11
Tasmania - - - -	72	282
South Australia - - -	2,189	7,931

Railways.

At the close of the year 1882 there were 1,268½ miles of Government railway open in New South Wales, and at the end of 1883 there were 1,320½ miles open. The total earnings during the year was 1,931,465*l.* Of this sum, 657,856*l.* was received for carrying passengers, and 1,267,334*l.* for goods. There were miscellaneous receipts amounting to 6,275*l.* The working expenses amounted to 1,117,788*l.*, leaving the sum of 753,676*l.* as net earnings over the working expenses. There were 10,272,037 passengers carried during the year, and the weight of goods was 2,796,301 tons.

Return No. 103, on page 247, gives the earnings and expenditure of the various railways for the last 10 years.

Tramways.

There were 32½ miles of tramways in use at the end of 1883. The total number of passengers who travelled during the 12 months was 25,713,433 and the gross earnings amounted to 193,929*l.* The working expenses were 183,218*l.*, leaving the net earnings 10,711*l.*

The City and Suburban showed earnings over expenditure to the amount of 13,167*l.*, while the Camden trams showed the expenditure to be in excess of the earnings by the sum of 2,456*l.*

Electric telegraphs.

Return No. 104, on pages 248 and 249, shows the number and value of telegrams sent from the several stations in the Colony

during 1883. The following is an abstract of the business transacted :—

—	Number of Messages.	Value of Transmitted Messages.	Amount due to the Colony.
		£	£
Colonial - - - -	2,093,668	118,247	118,247
Intercolonial balances - -	—	—	4,644
„ business - -	7,138	43,792	3,049
New Zealand business - -	6,482	3,237	1,899
Receipts for construction of telephone lines - - -	—	—	4,522
Receipts for maintenance of telephone lines - - -	—	—	2,282
Totals - -	2,107,288	165,276	134,643
Business in 1882 - -	1,965,931	153,554	120,265
Increase of business in 1883 -	141,357	11,722	14,378

The number of stations opened for the transmission of telegrams at the end of the year was 368, and the number of miles of wire was 17,272. The total cost of construction of telegraphs in the Colony amounted to 564,316*l.*

Post offices.

On page 251 will be found a decennial return, No. 107, of the number of post offices in the Colony on the 31st December in each year, showing the number of letters, newspapers, &c. transmitted, and the number of persons employed in the service up to the same period. At the close of the year 1883 there were 1,046 post offices and 188 receiving offices. The number of persons employed was 1,960 and the extent of the postal lines was 25,162 miles. There were 35,426,400 letters transmitted, of which 4,168,100 or 11·8 per cent. were foreign and British, and 31,258,300 or 88·2 per cent. were for delivery within the Colony. This shows an increase in the total number of letters, as compared with 1882, of 6,099,900. There were also 19,577,300 newspapers and 1,648,900 packets in 1883, as against 18,082,300 newspapers and 1,262,800 packets in 1882. The income for the year 1883 was 261,813*l.*, but there was a further sum of 24,000*l.* which was transferred to stamp duties as the approximate value of postage stamps used for duty stamp purposes during the year. The expenditure for the year was 326,674*l.*, exclusive of outstanding liabilities. The expenditure in 1882 being 288,186*l.*, shows an increase of 38,488*l.*

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The following is a comparative statement of the business of the post office for 1882 and 1883, showing the increase:—

Year.	Number of Post Offices.	Number of Receiving Offices.	Number of persons employed.	Extent of Postal Lines.	Number of Letters.	Number of Packets.	Number of Newspapers.	Income.
				Miles.				£
1882	1,005	169	1,824	23,923	29,326,500	1,262,800	18,082,300	229,911
1883	1,046	188	1,960	25,162	35,426,400	1,648,900	19,577,300	261,813
Increase on 1883.	41	19	136	1,239	6,099,900	386,100	1,495,000	31,902

Money orders.

There were 416 money order offices in New South Wales in the year 1883. The number of orders issued during the year was 275,592, payable in various parts of the world, representing a total value of 963,698*l.* Orders issued in various parts of the world payable in New South Wales number 239,595, representing the sum of 829,770*l.* The revenue derived as commission on the various money orders amounted to 11,371*l.*, being an increase on the revenue of 1882 of 1,344*l.* Return 109, on page 254, is a detailed account of the number and value of the orders issued in the Colony payable in various parts of the world, and also of those issued in those places payable in the Colony.

The decennial return No. 110 shows that the business of the money order office has more than doubled in the decade. The value of orders issued in 1874 was 430,505*l.*, as against 963,698*l.* in 1883. The value of orders payable in the Colony in 1874 was 399,060*l.*, as against 829,870*l.* in 1883.

Immigration expenditure.

Return No. 111, on page 255, is a decennial abstract showing the amount of money paid out of the revenues of the Colony on account of immigration. In 1883 the sum disbursed was 112,319*l.* on account of 8,369 immigrants. The distribution of this sum was as follows: Expenses in England, 58,289*l.*; gratuities to surgeons-superintendent, masters, officers, &c., 8,029*l.*; lodging, maintenance, &c. of immigrants after arrival, salaries and contingent expenses, 3,461*l.*; and passage money of immigrants, 42,539*l.*

Naval and military expenditure.

Return No. 112 gives a detailed account of the money expended on account of the defences of the Colony and for military and naval services: military, 73,085*l.*; permanent and volunteer forces, 76,435*l.*; naval 26,880*l.*; making a total of 176,400*l.*

Local revenues, Sydney Municipal Council.

On page 256, Return No. 113, shows the receipts and disbursements of the Sydney Municipality for the year 1883. The total revenue for the year amounted to 225,192*l.* This amount included the sum of 50,000*l.* received from the Colonial Government on account of the city endowment. The disbursements were: Office of Mayor, 9,007*l.*; wages, 62,772*l.* City improvements, 15,573*l.* for metal, and 59,958*l.* for various street works. Miscellaneous expenditure, including lighting the city with gas, 33,535*l.*

The sum of 44,346*l.* was paid to the Union Bank in liquidation of balances due to that bank for the years 1882 and 1883. NEW SOUTH WALES.

Return No. 114, on page 257, shows the total estimated value and annual value of rateable property in the various boroughs and municipal districts of the Colony (Sydney excepted), together with the receipts and expenditure, &c. of each municipality during the municipal year ended 4th February, 1884. The total estimated value of rateable property was 35,101,265*l.*, and the estimated annual value was 2,716,449*l.* The total receipts amounted to 331,086*l.*, and the total expenditure to 343,596*l.* The total extent of roads and streets under the control of the various municipal councils was 3,588 miles. Municipalities.

The concluding return, No. 115, of this part of the Register shows the receipts and disbursements of the several road trusts in the year 1883, and also the number of miles of road under the care of the commissioners.

PART VI.

Production.

The quantity of gold, the produce of the Colony of New South Wales, received into the Sydney branch of the Royal Mint for coinage during the year 1883 amounted to 121,777 ounces, of the value of 450,766*l.*, averaging 3*l.* 14*s.* per ounce. Of the quantity received, there were 73,198 ounces sent by escort, valued at 272,755*l.* The following table gives the production of each district:— Gold.

District.	Weight.	Gross Value.	Per Ounce.
	Ozs.	£	£ *s.* *d.*
Western - - -	39,587	138,887	3 10 2
Southern - - -	30,589	117,612	3 16 11
Northern - - -	9,193	32,177	3 10 0
Localities not described - -	42,408	162,090	3 16 5
	121,777	450,766	3 14 0

Return No. 118 shows the estimated quantity and value of gold, the produce of the Colony, from the year 1851 to the end of 1883 to be 9,432,758 ounces, of the value of 34,971,319*l.* But this return can only be taken to be approximately true. The quantity shown must be much below the actual production of the Colony during this period, as thousands of ounces have left the Colony of which no record was obtainable.

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Mines: Coal.

During the year 1883 there were 59 coal mines in operation. The quantity of coal raised was 2,521,457 tons, valued at 1,201,941*l.* The number of hands employed was 5,481.

The northern coal mines produced 1,899,621 tons, of the value of 928,327*l.*, while the quantity raised from the western and southern mines was 621,836 tons, valued at 273,614*l.* The average price of the northern coal was 9*s.* 9¼*d.* per ton, and of the southern and western, 8*s.* 9½*d.* per ton.

The above shows an increase in the production as compared with 1882 of 412,175 tons, of which the northern coalfields contributed 330,104 tons, and the southern and western 82,071 tons.

There were 834 more hands employed in coal mining in 1883 than in the previous year.

Shale.

The quantity of shale raised was 49,250 tons in 1883, as against 48,065 tons in 1882, the increase being 1,185 tons. The total value was 90,861*l.*, or about 1*l.* 16*s.* 10*d.* per ton. There were 293 men employed in the shale mines.

Copper.

During 1883 there were 6,44 2½ tons of copper produced, of the value of 368,049*l.* Cobar alone contributed 4,765 tons, valued at 286,819*l.* Tuena came next with 1,030 tons, worth 37,080*l.*; Rockley 520 tons, valued at 36,400*l.*; and Burrowa 127½ tons, of the value of 7,750*l.*

Tin.

Of tin, the total quantity produced was 6,897 tons, of the value of 341,124*l.* Tingha produced 2,636 tons, value 178,164*l*; Emmaville 2,509 tons, value 125,450*l.* Wilson's Downfall 450 tons, value 22,500*l.*; and Glen Innes 302 tons, value 15,010*l.*

Iron.

The production of iron from Lithgow was 3,434 tons, value 26,908*l.* This shows a falling off as compared with 1882 of 4,042 tons.

Antimony

There were 383 tons of antimony produced in the Armidale district, valued at 3,521*l.*

The following table is a recapitulation of the quantity and value of the various minerals produced in the year 1883 :—

	Quantity.	Value.
	Tons.	£
Coal - - - -	2,521,457	1,201,941
Shale - - - -	49,250	90,861
Copper - - - -	6,442	368,049
Tin - - - -	6,897	341,124
Iron - - -	3,434	26,908
Antimony - - - -	383	3,521
	2,587,863	2,032,404

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Live stock.

Return No. 121, on pages 265 and 266, shows the number of live stock in each electoral district of the Colony on the 31st March 1884. The horses numbered 326,964; horned cattle, 1,646,753; sheep, 34,418,488; and pigs, 189,050. As compared with 1882–3 there was a decrease in the number of horses of 1,062, and in the number of horned cattle of 213,232. This is accounted for by reason of the serious drought which existed in the Colony during the summer of 1883–4 and in the autumn of 1884. Of sheep there was an increase of 2,622,180, and of pigs 34,235.

Agriculture.

The next return, No. 123, is an abstract of the agricultural statistics in each electoral district of the Colony. This return shows the number of holders of land of one acre and upwards, the extent of land under cultivation, the extent enclosed but not cultivated, the extent unenclosed, and the total extent of holdings, the area and description of the various crops, and the produce thereof.

The total number of holders of land was 40,793. The aggregate area of the land held by them was 29,707,451 acres freehold and 3,645,547 acres leasehold. The total number of acres under crop was 789,082. Land enclosed but not cultivated covered an area of 27,241,009 acres, and the land unenclosed was 5,322,906 acres. In the year 1882 there were 733,583 acres under crop, and 24,977,048 acres enclosed but not cultivated, by which it will be seen that there was an increase of 55,499 acres under cultivation, and of 2,263,961 acres enclosed uncultivated land in 1883 as compared with the previous year.

The following table shows the acreage and produce of the various kinds of crops in the year 1883:—

	Acres.	Produce.
Wheat	289,757	4,345,437 bushels
Maize	123,634	4,538,604 „
Barley	5,081	106,496 „
Oats	17,810	376,635 „
Rye	1,140	16,274 „
Millet	285	4,078 „
Potatoes	14,954	36,977 tons
Tobacco	1,786	20,006 cwt.
Sorghum and imphee	64	1,014 „
Arrowroot	5	6,090 lbs.
Sugar cane { Productive	7,583	35,220,640 „
Sugar cane { Unproductive	7,401	—
Sown grasses, wheat, oats, &c. for hay	19,545	229,242 tons
Sown grasses for green food	91,601	—

In 1882 the sugar produced from 6,362 acres of productive cane was 11,650,688 lbs., by which it will be seen that the quantity was more than trebled in 1883.

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The vineyards in 1883 covered an area of 2,660 acres of grapes for wine-making purposes, and 1,027 acres for table use. The aggregate quantity of wine produced was 589,604 gallons; in addition towhich there were 4,162 gallons of brandy manufactured.

There were 17,455 acres devoted to gardens and orchards, and 7,268 acres to orangeries. The quantity of oranges produced being 8,102,658 dozens, an increase of no less than 3,123,829 dozens on the previous year's produce.

The average yield of wheat was about 15 bushels to the acre, of maize 36⅔ bushels, of barley 21 bushels (nearly), of oats 21 bushels, and of potatoes 2½ tons to the acre.

The yield of wheat was less by 1½ bushel to the acre than in 1882; of oats, nearly four bushels less. Maize, on the other hand, yielded over two bushels more than in the previous year.

PART VII.

Miscellaneous.

The public works of the Colony are dealt with in the next part of the Statistical Register. Return No. 126 occupies from page 272 to 310 inclusive, and shows the expenditure in all branches of the department to the 31st December 1883.

Railways. The aggregate amount expended on the several lines of railway finished to the end of the year 1883 was 16,055,264*l.* The sum expended on unfinished lines to the same period was 3,133,200*l.*, and the gross amount paid during the year 1883 was 2,411,057*l.*

Tramways. The account for tramways shows that the sum of 579,439*l.* had been expended on the finished lines; a further sum of 104,686*l.* had been expended on lines in course of construction to the 31st December 1883, and 238,836*l.* was expended during the year.

Electric telegraphs. The sum expended under the head of electric telegraphs during the year 1883 was 33,860*l.*

Roads and bridges. The expenditure for roads and bridges during the year was 609,232*l.*, and the sum disbursed by the sewerage branch of the department was 105,608*l.*

Harbours and rivers. The harbours and rivers department absorbed the sum of 733,620*l.*, of which sum 368,043*l.* was expended on the works for the Sydney water supply.

Public buildings. The sum of 340,777*l.* was expended on the various public buildings of the Colony during the year 1883.

Sewerage and water supply. The amount expended on the Sydney sewers up to the 31st December 1883 was 835,151*l.*, and 44,138*l.* was disbursed during the year. On the water supply the sum of 1,400,879*l.* was expended up to the end of the year 1883, and 66,776*l.* was spent during the 12 months.

Meteorology. Pages 311 to 319 inclusive are devoted to an abstract of meteorological observations taken at the Sydney Observatory, and at various stations throughout the Colony during the year 1883.

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Real and leasehold estates.

Return No. 131, at page 320, is a decennial record of the number of deeds registered at the Deeds Office. They were as follows:—

Year.	Number of Deed Registered.	Year.	Number of Deed Registered.
1874 - - -	7,174	1879 - -	10,556
1875 - - -	9,037	1880 - -	14,364
1876 - - -	9,503	1881 - -	24,488
1877 - - -	10,556	1882 - -	24,136
1878 - - -	11,067	1883 - -	19,743

The same return sets forth the various descriptions of deeds registered, with the amount of transactions in real and leasehold estates, by which it will be seen that the business of this department has increased very largely during the last few years. Of the 19,743 deeds registered in 1883, 6,040 were transfers of conditional purchases. The total amount represented by these transactions was 11,701,462*l.* exclusive of 46,752*l.*, the sum expressed in leases exceeding a period of three years.

Mortgages.

Return No. 132 is a decennial abstract of the number and amount of mortgages on land registered in the Colony. The total number registered in 1883 was 4,088, representing the sum of 5,859,472*l.*

No. 133 is a decennial return of the number of discharges of mortgages on land and conveyance under mortgage. In 1883 there were 1,388 discharges registered, of the value of 1,433,912*l.* The conveyances under mortgage were 132, amounting to 58,749*l.*

The preferable liens on wool and mortgages on live stock are shown in return No. 134 for the last 10 years. In 1883 the preferable liens on wool numbered 1,301, the sum raised being 1,026,574*l.* There were also 1,077 live stock mortgages, amounting to 2,486,407*l.*

Return No. 135 shows that the number of discharges of mortgages on live stock registered in 1883 was 126, representing the sum of 600,426*l.*

The number of liens on growing crops registered in the year 1883 was 814, for the sum of 50,789*l.*

Revenue of Land Titles Office.

The total revenue of the Land Titles Office for the year ended 31st December 1883 was 14,884*l.* The decennial return No. 137 shows that the number of applications for certificates of title under the Real Property Act (26 Victoria, No. 9) in 1883 was

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264, representing 406 properties of the aggregate area of 22,006 acres, and of the total value of 803,553*l.* The total number of dealings registered under the Real Property Act during the year was 12,830. The amount represented by transfers was 2,604,774*l.* by mortgages, 5,871,167*l.*, by discharges, 1,833,016*l.*, and by encumbrances, 1,000*l.*, making a total of 10,220,037*l.* The total number of extra endorsements was 17,802, and 5,916 new certificates of title were issued.

The number of dealings registered under the Real Property Act since the year 1876 inclusive will be seen by the following:—

Year.	No. Registered.	Year.	No. Registered.
1876 - - -	4,551	1880 - -	8,725
1877 - - -	5,428	1881 - -	11,008
1878 - - -	6,238	1882 - -	12,579
1879 - - -	6,788	1883 - -	12,830

The amount of consideration in 1876 was 2,272,170*l.*; and in 1883 10,220,037*l.*, by which it will be seen the annual consideration money has more than quadrupled since the first-named period.

There were 8,200 Crown grants registered in 1883, representing an area of 1,040,558 acres, of the value of 1,301,851*l.*

Civil justice.

On page 323, return No. 140 shows the business of the Supreme and Circuit Courts and of the Divorce and Matrimonial Causes Court during the year 1883. The next return, No. 141, gives the number of civil cases in the Supreme and Circuit Courts during the same period, and No. 142 is a decennial return on the same subject. No. 143 shows the business done in the several district courts of the Colony for the year ended the 1st March 1883. No. 144 is a decennial return of the Supreme Court and Equity Fees. No. 145 is a decennial return of intestate estates, and No. 146 a decennial return of the number of insolvencies in the Colony.

Miners' rights, &c.

Return No. 147, on page 326, shows the number of miners' rights and mineral and business licenses issued at the various goldfields of the Colony. Of these there appear to have been 9,567 miners' rights, 1,336 mineral licenses, and 1,178 business licenses issued in 1883. There was a considerable falling off on the number of miners' rights as compared with the two previous years, the numbers being for 1881 and 1882, 15,554 and 12,445 respectively.

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Gold-mining machinery.

Returns of the number and description of the various machines employed in quartz crushing and alluvial mining on the several goldfields will be found on pages 327 and 328

Publicans licenses.

Return No. 150, page 328, shows that the number of publicans' licenses issued in the Colony during the year 1883 was 3,074, being an increase of 11 on the previous year.

Defences of the Colony.

Pages 329 to 331 are devoted to returns having reference to the defences of the Colony. Return No. 151 shows the distribution of the permanent military forces. Return No. 152 shows the distribution of the Volunteer force, Artillery, Engineers, Torpedo and Signalling Corps, and Infantry, and return No. 153 shows the distribution of the Naval Brigade, on the 31st December 1883. Return No. 154 gives the number and calibre of the artillery guns in the Colony. There were 124 guns of various calibre mounted and 47 dismounted. The weight of shot and shell on hand was 1,429 tons.

Electors and voters.

Return No. 155, on page 332, shows the number of electors on the rolls of the various electoral districts of the Colony at the general election in 1882 to have been 196,289.

The total number of registered electors and voters on the rolls of the various municipal districts and boroughs on the 4th February 1884 was 63,373, being an increase on the previous year of 3,811.

Vaccination.

Return No. 157, page 334, shows the number of persons vaccinated by the Government vaccinators during the year 1883 to have been 658, of which 648 cases were reported as successful. Of these, 289 cases were performed in Sydney and suburbs, and 359 in the country districts. The numbers of those successfully operated upon at different ages were as follows :—

Under one year - - -	188
One year to five years - -	270
Five years to 10 years - -	190
	648

Land sales.

Return 158 shows that the quantity of land sold in the Colony, otherwise than conditionally, during the year 1883 amounted to 168,455 acres, for the sum of 256,982*l.* The number of acres sold conditionally was 1,621,948. There were 10,725 selections made, for which the sum of 424,968*l.* was received.

Return No. 161, page 339, shows the land granted for religious and public purposes during the year 1883. There were 74 grants, each grant comprising less than 100 acres, with an aggregate area of 525 acres, and three grants each of 100 acres and over, with an aggregate area of 2,010 acres; making a total of 78 grants, with a total aggregate area of 2,535 acres.

The total area of land alienated on the 31st December 1883 was 20,777,823 acres, and the area remaining unalienated was 175,104,327 acres.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Return No. 164, on pages 341 to 344 inclusive, shows the area of land alienated in virtue of the Volunteer Land Orders, from the year 1870 to 1883 inclusive. The total area thus alienated was 153,200 acres, as follows:—

	Acres.
In 1870 - - -	- 6,650
„ 1871 - - -	- 9,000
„ 1872 - - -	- 4,700
„ 1873 - - -	- 15,850
„ 1874 - - -	- 22,800
„ 1875 - - -	- 14,200
„ 1876 - - -	- 20,550
„ 1877 - - -	- 11,750
„ 1878 - - -	- 17,600
„ 1879 - - -	- 12,050
„ 1880 - - -	- 12,900
„ 1881 - - -	- 4,800
„ 1882 - - -	- 450
„ 1883 - - -	- Nil.

The total receipts for the year 1883 from lands and goldfields, as shown by return 165, page 345, were:—

	£
Under Lands Alienation Act -	- 1,165,539
„ „ Occupation Act -	- 325,129
„ Gold Fields Act -	- 19,122
Miscellaneous - - -	- 39,306
Total -	- 1,539,096

Return No. 166, on page 346, is a decennial abstract of lands leased for pastoral purposes. In 1883 the land leased for five years numbered 4,329 leases, and covered an area of 200,008 square miles, the rent of which was 264,174*l.* There were also 21,626 annual leases, with an area of 29,312 square miles, the rent payable on which was 60,955*l.* The total area leased being 229,320 square miles, and the total annual rent 325,129*l.*

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWD. GRANT WARD,
Registrar General.

VICTORIA.

No. 3.

Governor SIR H. B. LOCH, K.C.B., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY, K.G.

Government House, Melbourne,
November 13, 1884.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship a copy of a digest of the statistics of the Colony of Victoria for the year 1883.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY B. LOCH.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Derby, K.G.
&c. &c. &c.

DIGEST of the STATISTICS of VICTORIA, 1883.

By HENRY HEYLYN HAYTER, C.M.G., Government Statist.

1. The estimated population of Victoria at the end of 1883* was as follows :— Population, 1883.

Population, 31st December 1883.

Males - - - -	493,084
Females - - - -	438,706
Total - -	931,790

2. This estimate has been made up by means of the numbers returned at the last census, with the addition of the excess of births over deaths and of arrivals over departures know to have occurred since the census was taken. For reasons†, however, which have often been stated by the present writer, absolute reliance cannot be placed upon numbers thus obtained, the experience not only of Victoria but of the neighbouring colonies being that such estimates are usually, although not invariably, too high. Estimates sometimes unreliable.

* The estimated population on the 39th June, 1884, was 945,703, viz., 501,569 males and 444,134 females.

† These reasons are briefly as follows:—All the births are not registered; no account is kept of the arrivals and departures overland; the departures by sea are not all noted.

VICTORIA.

Municipal estimate of population.

3. A partial check upon the periodical estimates of population in this Colony is afforded by means of returns obtained from the municipal authorities, who at the time of making their valuations ought to ascertain the number of persons living upon each property rated. This is not always done correctly, and besides there are persons living upon properties which are not rated of whom the valuers sometimes omit to make an estimate. The aggregate population returned by the municipalities for 1883 was 907,835, which, with an allowance to bring it on to the end of the year and for districts not situated within the limits of any municipality, would give a total of 931,665 or 125 less than the estimate of this department.

Mean population, 1883.

4. The mean or average population of a given year is calculated by adding the estimated numbers at the beginning and end of the year and of the three intermediate quarters, and dividing their sum by 5. Such a computation for 1883 gives the following result :—

Mean Population, 1883.

Males - - - -	483,960
Females - - - -	433,350
Total - -	917,310

Increase of population, 1883.

5. According to the records of births and deaths, immigrants and emigrants, the apparent increase of population in 1883 was 25,565, viz., 15,609 males and 9,956 females. Of this increase 14,535, consisting of 6,699 males and 7,836 females, resulted from excess of births over deaths; and the remainder, viz., 11,030, consisting of 8,910 males and 2,120 females, was due to excess of arrivals over departures.

Increase of population, 1871 to 1883.

6. The figures showing the apparent increase of population are useful for comparing the results of one year with those of another but are not to be relied upon for individual years, they being usually higher than the actual numbers, as was made abundantly manifest by the results of the last census. The reason of this is that the number of persons who leave the Colony by sea without being recorded is greater than that of the infants whose births are not registered. This causes a constant loss in the account of population, unrecognised at the time, which can only be counteracted by a surplus of arrivals over departures overland, a circumstance which of late years has occurred but rarely. In 1883 the apparent increase of population was greater than in any previous year since 1871, except 1880, which was that in which the Melbourne International Exhibition was opened; it was less than in the Exhibition year by 592, but greater than in 1882 by 1,572.

The following are the figures for 1871 and each subsequent year :—

Apparent Increase of Population.

1871	25,846
1872	18,282
1873	19,765
1874	17,945
1875	14,835
1876	17,028
1877	20,487
1878	18,655
1879	19,891
1880	26,157
1881	22,165
1882	23,993
1883	25,565

Probable population, 1886.

7. It may be mentioned that, should the population continue to increase at the same rate as is shown for 1883, Victoria would contain a million of inhabitants about the middle of 1886.

Increase by births.

8. As practically all the deaths are registered, but some of the births escape registration, the apparent increase by the surplus of the latter over the former is always somewhat below the truth. As, however, it is probable that the proportion of unregistered births is tolerably constant from year to year, and is not very large in any year, the figures are useful. The apparent excess of births in 1883 was greater by 1,422 than that in 1882, and was also greater than in five, but less than in six, of the other years since 1870. The following are the numbers in the last 13 years :—

Increase by excess of Births over Deaths.

1871	17,464
1872	16,530
1873	16,599
1874	14,578
1875	11,433
1876	13,208
1877	13,234
1878	13,879
1879	14,719
1880	14,496
1881	14,843
1882	13,113
1883	14,535

Increase by immigration.

9. Leaving out of the question the arrivals and departures overland of which no attempt to take an account is made, the main source of error in the estimates of population is doubtless to be found in the returns of emigration by the seaboard.

VICTORIA.

The arrivals by sea are, it is believed, noted with much accuracy, as also are the departures for distant countries; but, in consequence of many persons travelling from Victoria to the neighbouring colonies without taking their passages beforehand, their names do not appear in the lists supplied by the shipping agents to the immigration authorities, and hence, although they have quitted this Colony, they are still supposed to form part of its population, for which reason the real increase by excess of arrivals over departures is always less than the figures show. This subject has often been referred to by the Government Statist, and has been the occasion of some correspondence between that officer and the Immigration Agent in Melbourne. There is reason to believe that the records are more accurate than they used to be, but there is no doubt that each year many persons still leave the Colony unrecorded. Attempts have been made to rectify the figures by procuring a statement of the recorded arrivals from Victoria in the neighbouring colonies, and this was tolerably successful as regards past years; but since the steamers of the Peninsular and Oriental Company have gone on to Sydney, and the Orient and Messageries lines of steamers, which, like the first-named, call at Adelaide, Melbourne, and Sydney, have been established, the plan has entirely failed; the reason being that the Melbourne passengers are not, as a rule, distinguished in the returns, the authorities in Sydney setting them down as coming from Colombo or England, and the authorities in Adelaide entering them as coming from Sydney. Quite recently correspondence has been renewed upon the subject, and it is hoped that some arrangement may be arrived at whereby not only a correct account of the departures may be obtained, but the port at which the persons arriving embarked may be entered in the returns, instead of that from which the ship that conveyed them originally sailed. In the meantime the figures, which are as follow, for the last 13 years, and which, it will be observed, show a larger increase for 1883 than for any other year of the period except that of the exhibition (1880), must be taken only for what they may be worth:—

Increase by Excess of Arrivals over Departures.

1871	8,382
1872	1,752
1873	3,166
1874	3,367
1875	3,402
1876	3,820
1877	7,253
1878	4,776
1879	5,172
1880	11,661
1881	7,322
1882	10,880
1883	11,030

VICTORIA

Birthplaces, religions, ages and occupations.

10. Tables showing the birthplaces, religions, ages, and occupations of the people of Victoria, according to the census of 1881, were published soon after the census was taken. On the present occasion the numbers under each of these heads have been brought on by estimates to the middle of 1883.

Birthplaces, 1883.

11. The following table has been constructed upon the assumption that the respective nationalities existed in 1883 in the same proportion to the total population of that year, as they did when the census was taken to the total population then enumerated :—

Birthplaces of the People of Victoria, 1883 (*estimated.*)

Birthplace.	Mean Population.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.
Victoria - - - - -	264,982	265,832	530,814
Other Australasian Colonies - - -	20,454	21,921	42,375
England and Wales - - - -	91,449	65,518	156,967
Scotland - - - - -	28,073	23,162	51,235
Ireland - - - - -	44,133	48,068	92,201
Other British Possessions - - -	6,486	4,320	10,806
Germany - - - - -	6,578	2,564	9,142
The United States - - - -	1,761	737	2,498
China - - - - - -	12,571	60	12,631
Other Foreign Countries - - -	7,473	1,168	8,641
Total - - - -	483,960	433,350	917,310
Allegiance.			
British subjects (by birth) - - -	455,577	428,821	884,398
Foreign subjects („) - - -	28,383	4,529	32,912

Religions, 1883.

12. The next table contains a statement of the estimated number of persons of different religions in Victoria about the middle of 1883, the proportions which those of each religion bear to the total population being identical with those obtaining at the last census :—

Religions of the People, 1883 (*estimated*).

Religious denominations.	Mean Population.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.
Church of England - - - -	176,121	155,030	331,151
Presbyterians - - - - -	73,601	67,431	141,032
Methodists - - - - -	61,423	60,921	122,344
Independents - - - - -	10,554	10,583	21,137
Baptists - - - - -	10,381	11,276	21,657
Other Protestants - - - -	12,295	8,156	20,451
Roman Catholics - - - -	107,741	108,622	216,363
Jews - - - - - -	2,565	2,043	4,608
Pagans - - - - -	11,906	39	11,945
Other sects - - - - -	17,373	9,249	26,622
Total - - - -	483,960	433,350	917,310

VICTORIA.

Ages, 1883.

13. In the following table the numbers of either sex have been carefully brought on in quinquennial periods of age from the census of 1881 by means of a calculation based upon the age at which the survivors of those then returned and born since must have arrived about the middle of 1883, the numbers being supplemented by the excess of arrivals over departures, as recorded by the immigration authorities, the ages of those composing such excess having been estimated :—

Ages of the People, 1883 (*estimated*).

Ages.	Mean Population.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.
Under 5 years - - - - -	58,153	56,409	114,562
5 to 10 „ - - - - -	55,949	54,840	110,789
10 to 15 „ - - - - -	55,959	55,093	111,052
15 to 20 „ - - - - -	53,788	52,786	106,574
20 to 25 „ - - - - -	50,343	49,852	100,195
25 to 30 „ - - - - -	35,186	33,692	68,878
30 to 35 „ - - - - -	24,451	22,727	47,178
35 to 40 „ - - - - -	22,687	21,267	43,954
40 to 45 „ - - - - -	24,946	21,167	46,113
45 to 50 „ - - - - -	27,214	20,205	47,419
50 to 55 „ - - - - -	27,799	17,183	44,982
55 to 60 „ - - - - -	19,774	11,043	30,817
60 to 65 „ - - - - -	12,602	7,412	20,014
65 to 70 „ - - - - -	7,913	4,717	12,630
70 to 75 „ - - - - -	3,935	2,620	6,555
75 to 80 „ - - - - -	2,031	1,451	3,482
80 years and upwards - - - -	6,230	886	2,116
Total - - -	483,960	433,350	917,310

Relative effectiveness, 1881 and 1883.—Persons.

14. According to the figures in this table, a large accession to the population (amounting to 85 per cent. of the whole increase) at the stronger period of life, and a comparatively small one at the weaker periods, has taken place since the census of 1881 was taken ; in consequence of this the numbers in every 10,000 living

capable of aiding, protecting, and supporting the others, rose in $2\frac{1}{4}$ years from 5,908 to 6,062, whilst those to be aided, protected, and supported, became reduced from 4,092 to 3,938. This is made plain by the figures in the following table :—

Total Population of Victoria at Supporting and Dependent Ages, 1881 *and* 1883.

Ages.	Numbers.			Numbers in every 10,000 Persons living.	
	1881 (3rd April).	1883 (30th June).	Increase in $2\frac{1}{4}$ years.	1881 (3rd April).	1883 (30th June).
Under 15 years -	331,762	336,403	4,641	3,847	3,668
15 to 65 years -	509,479	556,124	46,645	5,908	6,062
65 years and upwards	21,105	24,783	3,678	245	270
Total -	862,346	917,310	54,964	10,000	10,000

15. In the same $2\frac{1}{4}$ years the increase of males at the supporting ages amounted to 83 per cent. of the whole male increase per 10,000 males living; the proportion at the stronger period of life thus rose from 6,024 to 6,174, whilst the proportion at the weaker periods fell from 3,976 to 3,826. The following are the numbers and proportions as derived from the census returns, and the estimate brought on to the middle of 1883 :— Relative effectiveness, 1881 and 1883.—Males.

Male Population of Victoria at Supporting and Depenent Ag 1881 *and* 1883.

Ages.	Number of Males.			Numbers in every 10,000 Males living.	
	1881 (3rd April).	1883 (30th June).	Increase in $2\frac{1}{4}$ years.	1881 (3rd April).	1883 (30th June).
Under 15 years -	167,019	170,061	3,042	3,695	3,514
15 to 65 years -	272,341	298,790	26,449	6,024	6,174
65 years and upwards	12,723	15,109	2,386	281	312
Total -	452,083	483,960	31,877	10,000	10,000

Women at reproductive period, 1881 and 1883.

16. The women at reproductive ages (15 to 45) had increased from 186,277 at the census to 201,499 at the middle of 1883, and their proportion to every 10,000 females in the Colony had increased from 4,540 to 4,650.

Occupations, 1883.

17. The occupations of the people of Victoria have been brought on by proportion to about the middle of 1883, in the same manner as the birthplaces and religions:—

Occupations of the People, 1883 (*estimated*).

Occupations of the People.	Mean Population.		
	Male.	Females.	Total.
Ministering to government	5,043	258	5,301
„ religion	1,126	195	1,321
„ health	2,034	1,689	3,723
„ law	1,322	—	1,322
„ education	2,805	4,410	7,215
„ art, science, and literature	2,781	1,131	3,912
Traders	15,326	2,064	17,390
Assisting in exchange of money or commodities	7,097	696	7,793
Ministering to entertaining and clothing	15,714	28,555	44,269
Domestic servants	3,119	23,037	26,156
Contractors, artizans, and mechanics	49,057	1,116	50,173
Miners	37,714	5	37,719
Engaged in pursuits subsidiary to mining	886	3	889
„ pastoral pursuits and agriculture	82,413	43,656	126,069
„ pursuits subsidiary to grazing and agriculture	3,561	1,065	4,626
„ land carriage	15,397	360	15,757
„ sea navigation	3,485	26	3,511
Dealing in food	14,835	1,836	16,671
Labourers	25,459	4	25,463
Engaged in miscellaneous pursuits	990	108	1,098
Of independent means	2,522	1,230	3,752
Wives, widows, children, relatives, scholars	177,656	316,516	494,172
Public burthen	6,724	3,824	10,548
Of no occupation, unspecified	6,894	1,566	8,460
Total	483,960	433,350	917,310

Immigration and emigration, 1883.

18. The arrivals and departures by sea, recorded during 1883, also the excess of the former over the latter, were as follow:—

Immigration and Emigration, 1883.

—	Males.	Females.	Total.
Arrivals by sea	46,391	20,201	66,592
Departures by sea	37,481	18,081	55,562
Excess of arrivals	8,910	2,120	11,030

Gain by immigration, 1882 and 1883 compared.

19. The records of arrivals show larger numbers for 1883 than for 1882 by 7,188, and the records of departures show larger numbers for 1883 than for 1882 by 7,038; the apparent total gain by excess of immigration over emigration was therefore greater in the year under review than the previous one by 150.

Finance account, 1882–83.

20. During the year ended 30th June 1883, the expenditure exceeded the receipts by 41,000*l.*, but a credit balance of 135,000*l.* from the previous year not only wiped out this deficiency, but allowed of a credit balance of 95,000*l.* being carried forward to the ensuing year. The exact figures are as follow :—

Finance Account, 1882–3.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Receipts - - -	5,611,253	5	2
Expenditure - - -	5,651,885	8	4
Expenditure in excess of receipts - - -	40,632	3	2
Credit balance from 1881–2 -	135,312	7	5
Credit balance carried to 1883–4	94,680	4	3

Revenue, 1882–3 and previous years.

21. The revenue for 1882–3 was the largest ever raised in Victoria. It exceeded the revenue of 1881–2, which was the year in which the largest revenue had previously been realised, by about 19,000*l.*, and exceeded the revenue of 1880–81, which was the year in which the next highest reve nuehad been raised by over 420,000*l.*

Expenditure 1882–3 and former years.

22. The expenditure of 1882–3 also was much above that of any previous year, it being greater than in 1881–2—the year in which the next largest expenditure occurred—by over 500,000*l.* Prior to 1853, the annual expenditure never exceeded one million sterling; from 1853 to 1872–3 it usually fluctuated between two and three millions; from 1873–4 to 1879–80 it was between four and four and three-quarter millions; and in the last three years it exceeded five millions.

Revenue and expenditure per head in 1882–3 and former years.

23. In 1882–3 the revenue per head was 6*l.* 4*s.* 1*d.* and the expenditure per head was 6*l.* 4*s.* 11*d.* The former was less by 3*s.* but the latter was greater by 8*s.* than in the previous year. The expenditure, moreover, was larger than in any previous year since 1859; as also was the revenue, with the exception of one year, viz., 1881–2. In proportion to population, both revenue and expenditure declined pretty steadily year by year from 1862 to 1872–3, but in 1873–4 an augmentation took place, which has been maintained ever since.

Heads of revenue, 1881–2 and 1882–3.

24. The various sources from which the revenue of Victoria is derived may be grouped in four main divisions, viz.: Taxation, Land Revenue, Revenue from Public Works, and Revenue from other sources. The following is a statement of the amounts

VICTORIA. received under various heads in each of those divisions during the last two financial years:—

Heads of Revenue, 1881–2 *and* 1882–3.

Heads of Revenue.	Amounts received.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1881–2.	1882–3.		
TAXATION.	£	£	£	£
Customs duties (including also wharfage rates)	1,694,652	1,769,004	74,352	—
Excise	216,547	134,711*	—	81,836
Ports and harbours (chiefly tonnage dues)	26,263	27,787	1,524	—
Licenses (business)	25,977	28,381	2,404	—
Duties on estates of deceased persons	74,368	86,648	12,280	—
Duties on bank-notes	27,324	28,685	1,361	—
Stamp duty	131,020	133,433	2,413	—
Land tax	121,555	125,606	4,051	—
Total Taxation	2,317,706	2,334,255	16,549†	—
LAND REVENUE.				
Land sales (including rents counting towards purchase money)	697,558	563,790	—	133,768
Rents of Crown lands (not counting towards purchase money)	126,268	114,845	—	11,423
Penalties under Land Acts	2,313	1,298	—	1,015
Total Land Revenue	826,139	679,933	—	146,206
PUBLIC WORKS.				
Railways	1,715,260	1,838,284	123,024	—
Water supply	126,624	130,558	3,934	—
Other public works	4,035	2,357	—	1,678
Total Public Works	1,845,919	1,971,199	125,280†	—
OTHER SOURCES.				
Post and telegraphs	297,701	324,967	27,266	—
Mint charges	10,917	11,292	375	—
Mint subsidy returned	5,344	4,103	—	1,241
Fines, fees, and forfeitures (exclusive of Land Act penalties)	120,768	117,296	—	3,472
Rents (ordinary)	997	1,548	551	—
Reimbursements in aid	33,675	33,570	—	105
Interest and exchange	103,675	77,692	—	25,983
Miscellaneous receipts	26,631	46,211	19,580	—
Total Other Sources	599,708	616,679	16,971†	—
Total Revenue proper	5,589,472	5,602,066	12,594†	—
Assets realised	2,890	9,187	6,297	—
Grand Total	5,592,362	5,611,253	18,891	—

* An excise duty on beer was in force for only the first two months of the financial year 1882–3; hence the falling off as compared with 1881–2.

† Net figures.

Heads of expenditure, 1881–2 and 1882–3.

25. The following are the heads of expenditure during the years 1881–2 and 1882–3, also the increase or decrease in the latter year:—

Heads of Expenditure, 1881–82 *and* 1882–3.

Heads of Expenditure.	Amounts expended.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1881–2.	1882–3.		
	£	£	£	£
Civil list	31,469	29,926	—	1,543
Legislature	56,487	65,788	9,301	—
Civil establishment	98,843	125,398	26,555	—
Judicial and legal	158,182	176,689	18,507	—
Police	201,063	204,561	3,498	—
Gaols and penal establishments	53,032	57,128	4,096	—
Defences	79,442	191,360	111,918	—
Public instruction, science, &c.*	600,799	598,970	—	1,829
Charitable institutions, medical, &c.	249,367	267,400	18,033	—
Crown lands and agriculture	141,470	147,413	5,943	—
Railways	829,103	1,173,535	344,432	—
Placed to railway loan, liquidation, and construction account	200,000	—	—	200,000
Water supply	37,269	34,534	—	2,735
Public works (exclusive of railways and water supply)	550,681	636,611	85,930	—
Post and telegraphs	402,939	430,147	27,208	—
Customs	63,330	65,047	1,717	—
Harbours and lights	25,471	26,763	1,292	—
Mining	42,879	42,440	—	439
Mint subsidy	20,000	20,000	—	—
Interest	1,173,350	1,222,675	49,325	—
Retiring allowances and pensions	57,789	60,569	2,780	—
Gratuities, compensations, &c.	32,127	28,256	—	3,871
Aborigines	7,498	7,498	—	—
Miscellaneous services	29,574	39,177	9,603	—
Total expenditure proper	5,142,164	5,651,885	509,721	—
Amounts to be recouped from loans, &c.	3,600	--	—	3,600
Grand Total	5,145,764	5,651,885	506,121	—

Taxation.

26. The amounts of which revenue is made up, may be divided into two classes, viz., those raised by taxation, and those raised otherwise. The following figures show the result of a division of the Victorian revenue upon this principle:—

Taxation, 1882–3.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Revenue raised by taxation	2,334,255	6	2
,, otherwise	3,276,997	19	0
Total	5,611,253	5	2

Taxation per head.

27. In 1882–3 nearly 42 per cent. of the total revenue was raised by taxation; and if the amount so raised be divided by the

* Exclusive of school buildings and of all public works paid for out of loans, but including endowments of municipalities under the Local Government Act.

VICTORIA.

estimated mean population of the financial year, an average will be obtained of 2*l.* 11*s.* 7*d.* to each individual. The taxation per head was less by 1*s.* 1*d.* than in 1881–2, but much greater than in any previous year since 1859 ; and the proportion of taxation to revenue was higher than in any year since 1873–4.

Public debt.

28. The public debt of Victoria, amounted on the 30th June 1883, to 26,103,202*l.*, and consisted of—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Debentures - - -	25,450,220	0	0
Stock - - -	642,881	18	0
Treasury Bonds - -	10,100	0	0
	26,103,201	18	0

Growth of the public debt.

29. The gross total of the public debt increased from 5,000,000*l.* in 1860 to nearly 12,000,000*l.* in 1870, and again to over 22,000,000*l.* in 1880–81, the amount at the end of each decennial period being about double that at the commencement. During the two years subsequent to 1880–81, an amount of 4,000,000*l.* was added to the debt. The whole increase in 22 years was in a much greater ratio than the increase of population, for the indebtedness per head gradually rose from 9*l.* 10*s.* in 1860 to 28*l.* 10*s.* in 1882–3. A considerable increase also took place as compared with the total revenue, for whilst in 1860, or three years after the Colony commenced to borrow, the debt was equivalent to only 1⅔ years revenue, in 1870 it was equivalent to 3⅔ years, and in 1882–3 to nearly 4⅔ years revenue. The amount of debt outstanding, together with the average per head, and the multiple of revenue at the end of three decennial periods, and of the year 1882–3, is shown in the following table:—

Growth of the Public Debt, 1860 *to* 1882–3.

At end of the Year.	Amount outstanding.	Average per Head.	Multiple of Revenue.
	£	£ *s.* *d.*	
1860 - - - -	5,118,100	9 10 4	1·66
1870 - - - -	11,924,800	16 8 5	3·66
1880–1 - - - -	22,593,102	26 1 2	4·36
1882–3 - - - -	26,103,202	28 10 0	4·62

Interest on debt per head.

30. The interest and expenses of the public debt of Victoria amounted in 1882–3 to 1,162,195*l.* being in the proportion of 1*l.* 5*s.* 8*d.* per head of the population and equal to nearly a fifth of the total expenditure.

Marriages, 1883.

31. The marriages celebrated in Victoria during 1883 numbered 6,771 as against 6,309 in the previous year. The excess in favour of 1883 was thus 462.

Marriages, 1883 and former years.

32. More marriages took place in 1883 than in any previous year. The number solemnized annually had been almost stationary during the seven years prior to 1880, but in that year an advance was made which has been more than sustained since. In 1882, for the first time, the marriages exceeded 6,000; and in 1883, as already stated, they amounted to 6,771.

Marriage rate.

33. The number of marriages compared with the total population is generally called the marriage rate. This for many years had been declining in Victoria, for whilst in the three years prior to 1863 it was above 8 per 1,000 of both sexes and all ages, from 1863 to 1865 it was between 7 and 8 and between 1868 and 1878 it was between 6 and 7 per 1,000. It reached its lowest point 5·98 in 1879, but since then it has gradually revived, and in 1883 amounted to 7·38, this being the highest rate that has prevailed during the last 19 years.

Ages of bridegrooms and brides in combination.

34. The age of both bride and bridegroom was specified in the case of all but 42 of the 6,771 marriages which took place in 1883. In 34 of the defective entries the age of neither party was given; in three cases the age of the husband was stated, but not that of the wife, and in five instances the age of the wife was given, but not that of the husband. The following table shows the ages of the husbands and of the wives in combination:—

Ages of Bridegrooms and Brides in Combination, 1883.

Ages of Bridegrooms.	Ages of Brides.																		Bride-grooms.
	14 to 15.	15 to 16.	16 to 17.	17 to 18.	18 to 19.	19 to 20.	20 to 21.	21 to 25.	25 to 30.	30 to 35.	35 to 40.	40 to 45.	45 to 50.	50 to 55.	55 to 60.	60 to 65.	65 to 70.	70 to 75.	Unspecified.	Total
17 to 18 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
18 to 19 „	1	-	1	5	3	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14
19 to 20 „	-	-	1	1	6	14	4	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	36
20 to 21 „	-	-	2	6	7	26	22	36	4	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	104
21 to 25 „	-	5	31	70	180	260	245	1,301	200	28	6	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,328
25 to 30 „	-	4	5	50	93	167	189	1,144	550	71	15	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	2,295
30 to 35 „	-	-	1	11	24	26	41	320	249	85	34	11	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	808
35 to 40 „	-	1	-	6	3	6	15	119	117	70	44	14	5	1	-	-	-	-	-	401
40 to 45 „	-	-	-	1	3	4	6	41	71	43	44	27	15	1	1	-	1	-	1	259
45 to 50 „	-	-	-	1	-	2	3	28	38	43	33	23	25	5	1	-	-	-	-	202
50 to 55 „	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	8	14	11	29	30	26	17	1	2	-	-	-	142
55 to 60 „	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	6	6	11	11	15	11	11	7	3	-	1	-	84
60 to 65 „	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	3	5	7	3	4	3	-	-	-	-	30
65 to 70 „	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	3	3	4	1	3	-	-	-	-	17
70 to 75 „	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	2	-	-	3	1	1	-	-	-	10
75 to 80 „	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Unspecified	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	34	39
Total Brides	1	10	41	151	322	511	530	3,018	1,253	369	227	135	98	43	17	6	1	1	37	6,771

NOTE.—This table may be read thus:—Two men between 50 and 55 married girls between 18 and 19; two women between 45 and 50 married men between 25 and 30, &c.

Relative ages of husband and wife.

35. An examination of the 6,729 cases in which the ages of both parties are specified will show that in 2,095 instances, or 31 per cent. of the whole, both parties to the marriage were about the same age; in 489 instances, or 7 per cent. of the whole, the wife was older than the husband; and in 4,145 instances, or 62 per cent. of the whole, the husband was older than the wife.

Births, 1883.

36. The births registered in Victoria during 1883 numbered 27,541 as against 26,747 in 1882. The increase in the year under review, as compared with the previous one, was thus 794.

Births in 1883 and former years.

37. During the last 15 years the number of births in Victoria has remained stationary, and although some improvement was shown in the year under review, even the number in that year was exceeded in 1873, ten years previously, when 28,100 births, or 559 more than in 1883, were registered.*

Twins and triplets.

38. In 1883, 183 twin births but no triple births were registered, as against 215 twin births and 2 triple births in 1882. In the ten years ended with 1880, 2,426 cases of twins and 21 cases of triplets were recorded, the total number of births in the same period having been 268,710. There were thus 266,242 confinements in the ten years, and it follows that one mother in every 111 gave birth to twins, and 1 mother in every 12,796 was delivered of three children at a birth.

Illegitimate births.

39. The illegitimate children born in 1883 numbered 1,292, or 1 in every 21 births registered. The number in 1882 were set down as 1 in 21; in 1881 as 1 in 20; in 1880 and 1879 as 1 in 21; and in 1878 as 1 in 24; in 1877 as 1 in 26; in 1876 as 1 in 27; and in 1875 as 1 in 34. In the 10 years, 1871–80, out of 268,710 infants born, 9,868 were traced as having been born out of wedlock, which numbers furnish a proportion of 1 illegitimate child to every 27 births.

Deaths, 1883.

40. The deaths in 1883 numbered 13,006, as against 13,634 in 1882. The decrease in the year under notice was thus 628.

Deaths, 1883, and former years.

41. Deaths were more numerous in 1883 than in any previous year except 1882, 1876, and 1875. The high mortality in the two last-named years, in which respectively 13,561 and 15,287 deaths were recorded, was due to the prevalence of measles and scarlatina in an epidemic form.

Excess of births over deaths.

42. The births in 1883 exceeded the deaths by 14,535, or 112 per cent., as against 96 per cent. in 1882. In the 18 years ended with 1883 the proportion averaged 122 per cent. The following were the births and deaths in each of those 18 years, and the excess of the former over the latter :—

Excess of Births over Deaths, 1866 *to* 1883.

Year.	Births.	Deaths.	Excess of Births over Deaths.	
			Numerical.	Centesimal.
				Per Cent.
1866 - - -	25,010	12,286	12,724	104
1867 - - -	25,608	11,733	13,875	118
1868 - - -	27,243	10,067	17,176	171
1869 - - -	26,040	10,630	15,410	145
1870 - - -	27,151	10,420	16,731	161
1871 - - -	27,382	9,918	17,464	176
1872 - - -	27,361	10,831	16,530	153
1873 - - -	28,100	11,501	16,599	144
1874 - - -	26,800	12,222	14,578	119

* In 1883, the number of births per 1,000 of the population was 30·02 as against 30·04 in the previous year.

Year.	Births.	Deaths..	Excess of Births over Deaths.	
			Numerical.	Centesimal.
				Per Cent.
1875 - - -	26,720	15,287	11,433	75
1876 - - -	26,769	13,561	13,208	97
1877 - - -	26,010	12,776	13,234	104
1878 - - -	26,581	12,702	13,879	109
1879 - - -	26,839	12,120	14,719	121
1880 - - -	26,148	11,652	14,496	124
1881 - -	27,145	12,302	14,843	121
1882 - - -	26,747	13,634	13,113	96
1883 - - -	27,541	13,006	14,535	112
Total in 18 years -	481,195	216,648	264,547	122

Years in which births doubled deaths.

43. It will be noticed that the births more than doubled the deaths in all the years except 1882, 1876, and 1875.

Annual death-rate.

44. In 1883 deaths occurred in the proportion of 14·18 per 1,000 of the living population; 15·31 deaths of males per 1,000 living males; 12·91 deaths of females per 1,000 living females. All these proportions are exceedingly low as compared with those prevailing in most other countries.

Imports, exports, and trade in 1883.

45. In 1883, the total declared value of the Victorian imports was 17,743,846*l.*, and that of the exports 16,398,863*l.*; the excess of imports over exports was thus 1,344,983*l.*, and the whole value of the external trade of the Colony was 34,142,709*l.*

Imports and exports, 1882 and 1883 compared.

46. The value of imports was less in 1883 than in 1882 by 1,004,235*l.*; but the value of exports was greater than in that year by 205,284*l.* The value of the total trade was thus less than in the previous year by about 800,000*l.*

Imports and exports 1883, and former years.

47. The imports in 1883, as indicated by their values, were higher than in any year of the Colony's history except 1882; the exports in 1883, according to the same standard, exceeded those in any previous year.

Imports and exports the produce of various countries.

48. The value of the imports into Victoria of articles entered as being the produce or manufacture of the United Kingdom, of other British dominions, and of Foreign states, and the value of the exports from Victoria of articles entered as the produce or manufacture of the same countries and of the Colony itself, also the per-centage of such values of imports and exports in 1883, will be found in the following table:—

Imports and Exports the Produce of different Countries, 1883.

Articles the Produce or Manufacture of—	Imports.		Exports.	
	Value.	Per-centage.	Value.	Per-centage.
	£		£	
Victoria - - -	—	—	13,292,294	81·06
The United Kingdom -	8,507,964	47·95	1,140,251	6·95
Other British Possessions	6,608,862	37·25	1,231,311	7·51
Foreign States - -	2,627,020	14·80	735,007	4·48
Total - -	17,743,846	100·00	16,398,863	100·00

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Exports of Victorian produce.

49. It will be observed that 81 per cent. of the exports of 1883 were set down as the produce or manufacture of Victoria. This is the highest proportion that has prevailed since 1866, as will be seen by the following table, which gives the total value and value per head of articles of Victorian produce exported, and their proportion to the total exports, in each of the 17 years ended with 1883:—

Exports of Victorian Products, 1867 *to* 1883.

Year.	Exports of Articles produced or manufactured in Victoria.		
	Total Value.	Value per Head of the Population.	Per-centage of Total Exports.
	£	£ s. d.	
1867	9,972,333	15 9 7	78·37
1868	11,697,893	17 12 10	75·02
1869	9,539,816	13 17 8	70·85
1870	9,103,323	12 15 3	73·00
1871	11,151,622	15 2 7	76·60
1872	10,758,658	14 5 8	77·56
1873	11,876,707	15 10 4	77·61
1874	11,352,515	14 12 0	73·52
1875	10,571,806	13 8 6	71·59
1876	10,155,916	12 15 0	71·54
1877	11,269,086	13 18 9	74·35
1878	10,676,499	12 19 11	71·53
1879	8,069,857	9 13 6	64·80
1880	11,220,467	13 3 11	70·33
1881	12,480,567	14 7 3	76·79
1882	12,570,788	14 2 4	77·63
1883	13,292,294	14 9 10	81·06

Increase of exports of Victorian products since 1879.

50. According to the table, the export trade of local productions has shown a steady and considerable improvement since the unusual depression which prevailed in 1879, whilst the total value thereof was much higher in 1883 than in any of the previous years shown in the table. The value per head in 1883, however, was not so high as in 1868, 1871, 1873, or 1874, but was above that in any other year since 1867.

Imports 1883.

51. The following are the values of 60 of the principal articles imported in 1883:—

Imports, 1883.

	£
Apparel and slops	316,047
Bags and sacks (including woolpacks)	187,076
Beer, cider, and perry	197,702
Books	220,711
Boots and shoes	123,246
Butter and cheese	4,015
Candles	21,603
Carpeting and druggeting	72,047

	£
Coal	375,947
Coffee	46,211
Cottons	836,496
Cutlery	23,307
Drapery	—
Drugs	75,544
Earthenware, brownware, chinaware, and porcelain	82,574
Fancy goods	94,819
Fish	162,502
Flour (including biscuit)	16,141
Fruit (including currants and raisins)	193,238
Furniture and upholstery	68,299
Glass and glass ware	112,474
Gloves	95,803
Gold (exclusive of specie)	612,897
Specie, gold	166,768
„ other	26,601
Grain, oats	62,400
„ wheat	5,123
„ other (including malt and rice)	201,330
Haberdashery	348,672
Hardware and ironmongery	178,269
Hats, caps, and bonnets	128,241
Hides, skins, and pelts	129,975
Hops	93,400
Hosiery	141,694
Iron and steel	691,367
Jewellery	67,423
Leather, leather ware, and leathern cloth	164,188
Linen, piece goods	28,340
Live stock	922,936
Machinery	233,356
Matches and vestas	41,041
Meats (fresh, preserved, and salted)	11,292
Millinery	—
Musical instruments	97,927
Nails and screws	42,962
Oil of all kinds	192,896
Oilmen's stores	14,435
Opium	57,986
Paints and colours	70,131
Paper (including paper bags)	203,295
Silks	247,982
Spirits	409,285
Stationery	84,402
Sugar and molasses	1,358,523
Tea	563,908
Timber	706,424
Tobacco, cigars, and snuff	211,773

	£
Tools and utensils - - -	48,573
Watches, clocks, and watchmakers' materials	82,418
Wine - - - - -	158,969
Wool - - - - -	2,043,588
Woollens and woollen piece goods -	793,015
Other articles - - - -	2,774,239
Total imports - -	17,743,846

Exports, 1883. 52. The exports of 40 of the principal articles are in like manner given for 1883:—

Exports, 1883.

	£
Antimony, ore, regulus, &c. - -	2,366
Apparel and slops - - -	311,597
Bark - - - - -	30,488
Bones and bone dust - - -	10,187
Books - - - - -	85,080
Boots and shoes - - - -	64,015
Butter and cheese - - -	117,841
Candles - - - - -	9,672
Coffee - - - - -	20,840
Copper ore, regulus, &c. - - -	5,236
Drapery - - - - -	—
Flour and biscuit - - -	295,571
Gold (exclusive of specie) - -	1,665,261
Specie, gold - - - -	2,251,278
„ silver - - - -	1,060
Grain oats, - - - -	10,661
„ wheat - - - -	356,156
„ other (including malt and rice) -	81,935
Hardware and ironmongery - -	49,347
Hay, straw, and chaff - - -	125,919
Hides - - - - -	4,118
Horns and hoofs - - -	1,673
Leather, leather ware, and leathern cloth -	387,423
Live stock - - -	804,836
Machinery - - - -	184,135
Meats, fresh and preserved - -	89,052
„ salted (bacon, beef, hams, and pork)	40,513
Oil of all kinds - - - -	40,340
Potatoes - - - -	110,885
Skins and pelts - - - -	117,538
Soap - - - - -	13,090
Spirits - - - - -	93,148
Stationery - - - -	44,460
Sugar and molasses - - -	266,779
Tallow - - - - -	232,400
Tea - - - - -	395,046

	£
Tin, tin ore, and black sand - -	8,642
Tobacco, cigars, and snuff - -	145,551
Wine - - - - -	44,004
Wool - - - - -	6,054,613
Woollens and woollen piece goods -	106,807
Other articles - - - -	1,682,605
Total exports - -	16,398,863

Excess of imports over exports, &c. 1847 to 1883.

53. In 28 out of the 47 years ended with 1883 the value of imports to Victoria exceeded that of exports therefrom, but in the other 19 years the value of exports was the greater. The following is a statement of the amounts by which the imports exceeded the exports in those years in which the excess was in favour of the former, and the amounts by which the exports exceeded the imports in those years in which the excess was in the opposite direction; also the net excess of imports during the whole period :—

Imports in Excess of Exports, and the contrary, 1837 *to* 1883.

Year.	Imports in excess of Exports.	Exports in excess of Imports.
	£	£
1837 - - - -	103,201	—
1838 - - - -	45,232	—
1839 - - - -	127,038	—
1840 - - - -	306,507	—
1841 - - - -	164,094	—
1842 - - - -	78,644	—
1843 - - - -	—	66,446
1844 - - - -	—	105,785
1845 - - - -	—	215,304
1846 - - - -	—	109,640
1847 - - - -	—	230,815
1848 - - - -	—	301,683
1849 - - - -	—	275,495
1850 - - - -	—	296,871
1851 - - - -	—	366,472
1852 - - - -	—	3,381,807
1853 - - - -	4,781,093	—
1854 - - - -	5,883,847	—
1855 - - - -	—	1,485,399
1856 - - - -	—	527,491
1857 - - - -	2,176,697	—
1858 - - - -	1,119,040	—
1859 - - - -	1,755,032	—
1860 - - - -	2,131,026	—
1861 - - - -	—	296,154
1862 - - - -	448,365	—
1863 - - - -	552,431	—
1864 - - - -	1,076,131	—
1865 - - - -	106,789	—
1866 - - - -	1,882,165	—
1867 - - - -	—	1,050,347

Year.	Imports in excess of Exports.	Exports in excess of Imports.
	£	£
1868 - - - -	—	2,273,328
1869 - - - -	444,636	—
1870 - - - -	—	14,256
1871 - - - -	—	2,215,825
1872 - - - -	—	179,873
1873 - - - -	1,231,402	
1874 - - - -	1,512,876	—
1875 - - - -	1,918,900	—
1876 - - - -	1,508,867	—
1877 - - - -	1,204,617	—
1878 - - - -	1,236,173	—
1879 - - - -	2,581,368	—
1880 - - - -	—	1,397,665
1881 - - - -	466,418	—
1882 - - - -	2,554,502	—
1883 - - - -	1,344,983	—
Total - - -	38,742,374	14,790,656
Deduct excess of exports - -	14,790,656	—
Net excess of imports - -	23,951,718	—

Balance of trade in 47 years.

54. It will be observed that in the 47 years of which mention is made in the table the imports exceeded the exports by nearly 24,000,000*l.* or an average of 510,000*l.* per annum; and it should be mentioned that this excess would be added to if the value of the British and foreign built ships placed on the register of Victoria were included with the imports.

Vessels inwards and outwards.

55. Partly, no doubt, owing to the increased number of large steamers trading to Melbourne, the tonnage of vessels entering and leaving Victorian ports was greater in 1883 than in any former year; but these seem to have to a certain extent supplanted smaller vessels, as the number of vessels in that year was the smallest during the last sixteen years. The following table contains a statement of the number, tonnage, and crews of Colonial, British, and Foreign vessels inwards and outwards in 1883:—

Vessels entered and Cleared, 1883.

Nationality.	Vessels Entered.			Vessels cleared.		
	Number.	Tons.	Men.	Number.	Tons.	Men.
Colonial - -	1,304	697,430	30,784	1,333	710,999	31,369
British - -	534	582,803	24,003	545	602,631	23,773
Foreign - -	185	184,519	6,843	186	185,949	6,827
Total -	2,023	1,464,752	61,630	2,064	1,499,579	61,969

Postal Returns.

56. The following figures show the number of post offices throughout the Colony, and the number of letters, packets, and newspapers which passed through them in the last two years. A satisfactory increase is to be observed in all the items :—

Postal Returns, 1882 *and* 1883.

Year.	Number of Post Offices.	Number despatched and received of			
		Letters.*	News-papers.	Packets.	Total.
1882 - - -	1,218	28,877,977	12,383,928	4,972,486	46,234,391
1883 - - -	1,295	30,962,167	13,982,222	5,401,330	50,345,719
Increase -	77	2,084,190	1,598,294	428,844	4,111,328

* Including post cards. These were first issued on the 1st April 1876. The number issued in 1883 was 1,854,521 as against 1,618,083 in 1882.

Proportion of letters per head.

57. The letters dispatched and received were to each head of the population in the proportion of 32·4 in 1882, and of 33·75 in 1883.

Electric telegraphs.

58. Telegraphic communication exists in Victoria between 365 stations within her own borders. Her lines are connected besides with the lines of New South Wales, and, by means of them, with Queensland and New Zealand, also with the lines of South Australia, and, by their means, with Western Australia, the Eastern Archipelago, Asia, Europe, and America; also with the submarine cable to Tasmania. During 1883 the lines were extended by 167 miles, and the length of wire was added to by 349 miles, a fair increase also occurred in the number of telegrams. The number of stations, the length of lines and wire, and the amount of business done in the last two years are given in the following table :—

Electric Telegraphs, 1882 *and* 1883.

Year.	Number of Stations.	Number of Miles of		Number of Telegrams.		
		Line (poles).	Wire.	Paid.	Unpaid.*	Total.
1882 - -	337	3,493	6,922	1,008,642	410,127	1,418,769
1883 - -	365	3,660	7,271	1,037,429	437,543	1,474,972
Increase -	28	167	349	28,787	27,416	56,203

* These are Government telegrams :

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Telephones.

59. Besides the telegraphic wires there were in operation at the end of 1883, 716 telephone "exchange" wires, worked by two private companies: also 114 private wires for telephone and other purposes. The former yielded a revenue to the State of 3,065*l.* and the latter of 1,338*l.* As compared with the previous year, the telephone "exchange" wires increased by 318, and the private wires by 16, the revenue from the former was trebled, and that from the latter was more than doubled.

Railways; length, cost, &c.

60. All the railways in Victoria belong to the State. The number of miles open at the end of 1883 was 1,562¼, consisting of 1,357½ miles of single, and 204¾ of double line, at the same time 132 additional miles of railway had been authorised and were in course of construction.

Land under tillage.

61. The extent of land returned as under cultivation in 1883–4 amounted to 2,215,923 acres, as against 2,040,916 acres in 1882–3. The increase shown by the figures was therefore, 175,007 acres.

Land under principal crops.

62. The principal crops grown in Victoria are wheat, oats, barley, potatoes, hay and green forage. The following table shows the extent of land under each of these crops in the last two seasons:—

Land under Principal Crops, 1883 *and* 1884.

Year ended March.	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Potatoes.	Hay.	Green Forage.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
1883 - - -	969,362	169,892	43,721	34,267	309,382	290,438
1884 - - -	1,104,392	188,161	46,832	40,195	302,957	286,866
Increase -	135,030	18,269	3,111	5,928	—	—
Decrease -	—	—	—	—	6,425	3,572

Produce of principal crops.

63. The following is a statement of the gross produce of each of the principal crops at the same periods:—

Gross Produce of Principal Crops, 1883 *and* 1884.

Year ended March.	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Potatoes.	Hay.
	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Tons.	Tons.
1883 - - -	8,751,454	4,446,027	758,477	129,605	327,385
1884 - - -	15,570,245	4,717,624	1,069,803	161,088	433,143
Increase -	6,818,791	271,597	311,326	31,483	105,758

Live stock, 1881 and 1883.

64. Information as to the numbers of live stock kept was obtained at the census of 1881, and since that time the figures have been brought on by estimates furnished by the municipal authorities.

The following are the census numbers, and the numbers at the end of 1883, as derived from the municipal estimates alluded to :—

Live Stock, 1881 *and* 1883.

Period.	Horses.	Cattle.			Sheep.	Pigs.
		Milch Cows.	Exclusive of Milch Cows.	Total.		
3rd April, 1881 (enumerated)	275,516	329,198	957,069	1,286,267	10,360,285	241,936
31st December, 1883 (estimated) -	286,779	332,565	964,981	1,297,546	10,739,021	233,525
Increase -	11,263	3,367	7,912	11,279	378,736	—
Decrease -	—	—	—	—	—	8,411

Manufactures.

65. Statistics of manufactures and works in operation are collected each year. The collectors are instructed to obtain returns only from establishments of an extensive character, except when the existence of industries of an unusual or interesting nature seems to call for special comment. No attempt is made to enumerate mere shops, although some manufacturing industry may be carried on thereat. Were this done, the manufactories of the Colony might be multiplied to an almost indefinite extent. There were in 1882–3 140 flour-mills in the Colony, which during the year operated upon 7,850,506 bushels of wheat, and 337,830 bushels of other grain; 70 breweries, in which 13,729,371 gallons of beer were brewed; 198 brickyards, some being also potteries, which made over 96,000,000 bricks, and pottery valued at 45,540*l.*; 156 tanneries and fellmongeries, which operated upon 1,817,429 hides and skins; 7 woollen mills, which used 1,833,650 lbs. of wool, and produced 830,604 yards of tweed, cloth, and flannel, and 2,531 blankets; 29 soap and candle works which produced 140,235 cwt. of soap and 38,530 cwt. of candles; 13 tobacco manufactories, which manufactured 1,279,671 lbs. of tobacco, 7,196,200 cigars, and 1,323 lbs. of snuff; 7 distilleries, which made 208,450 gallons of spirits; 131 establishments working in books or stationery; 9 in musical instruments; 18 in prints and pictures; 18 in carving and figures; 5 in designs, medals and dies; 7 in philosophical instruments; 2 in surgical instruments; 13 in arms and ammunition; 144 in machines, tools, and instru-

VICTORIA.

ments; 232 in carriages and harness; 20 in ships and boats; 27 in houses, buildings, &c.; 102 in furniture; 52 in chemicals; 239 in dress; 13 in fibrous materials; 57 in animal food; 46 in vegetable food, 177 in drinks and stimulants; 74 in animal matters; 510 in vegetable matters; 21 in coal (gasworks); 57 in stone, clay, earthenware, and glass; 3 in water (ice making); 33 in gold, silver and precious stones; and 147 in metals other than gold and silver. The total number of these establishments is 2,777, of which 1,290 use steam, gas or water engines, the total horse power of which is 17,602. They employ 46,857 hands, and the approximate total value of lands, buildings, machinery, and plant is 9,414,527*l.*

Gold raised.

66. The following may be estimated as the total quantity and value of the gold raised in Victoria from the period of its first discovery in 1851. The figures give an average per annum during the whole period of about 1,607,000 ozs., which is nearly twice the quantity raised in 1883.

Estimated Total Quantity and Value of Gold raised in Victoria, 1851 *to* 1883.

Gold raised in Victoria.	Estimated Quantity.	Value, at 4*l.* per oz.
	ozs.	£
Prior to 1883 - - -	51,404,103	205,616,412
During 1883 - - -	810,047	3,240,188
Total - -	52,214,150	208,856,600

Wages.

67. The following table contains a statement of the average rate of wages paid in respect to engagements made in Melbourne in 1884. Throughout Victoria the recognised working day for artizans and general labourers is eight hours.

Wages in Melbourne.

Description of Labour.	1884.
Agricultural Labour.	
Farm labourers - - - - per week, with rations	15*s.* to 20*s.*
Ploughmen - - - - - „ „	20*s.* to 25*s.*
Reapers* - - - - - per acre, „	10*s.* to 15*s.*
Mowers* - - - - - per acre „	3*s.* 6*d.* to 6*s.*
Threshers* - - - - - per bushel „	5*d.* to 7*d.*
Pastoral Labour.	
Shepherds - - - - per annum, with rations	36*l.* to 52*l.*
Stock-keepers - - - - „ „	60*l.* to 75*l.*
Hut-keepers - - - - „ „	26*l.* to 40*l.*
Generally useful men on stations - - per week, „	15*s.* to 20*s.*
Sheep-washers - - - - „ „	15*s.* to 25*s.*
Shearers - - - per 100 sheep sheared, „	12*s.* to 15*s.*

* The reaping, mowing, and threshing has of late years been to a large extent done by machinery.

Description of Labour.		1884.
Artizan Labour.		
Masons	per day, without rations	10*s.* to 12*s.*
Plasterers	„ „	„
Bricklayers	„ „	„
Carpenters	„ „	„
Blacksmiths	„ „	10*s.* to 14*s.*
Servants—Males and Married Couples.		
Married couples, without families	per annum, with board and lodging	60*l.* to 90*l.*
Married couples, with families	„ „	40*l.* to 50*l.*
Men cooks, on farms and stations	„ „	50*l.* to 60*l.*
Grooms	„ per week,	20*s.* to 30*s.*
Gardeners	„ „	„
Servants—Females.		
Cooks	per annum, with board and lodging	50*l.* to 100*l.*
Laundresses	„ „	35*l.* to 52*l.*
General servants	„ „	30*l.* to 38*l.*
Housemaids	„ „	25*l.* to 40*l.*
Nursemaids	„ „	20*l.* to 40*l.*
Miscellaneous Labour.		
General labourers	per day, without rations	7*s.* to 8*s.*
Stonebreakers	per cubic yard, „	1*s.*6*d.* to 3*s.*6*d.*
Seamen	per month, with rations	4*l.* 10*s.* to 6*l.*
Miners	per week, without rations	2*l.* to 3*l.*

68. Prices in Melbourne were quoted as follows in the same year. In country districts the cost of groceries, tobacco, wine, coal, &c. is naturally higher, and that of agricultural and grazing produce, firewood, &c. naturally lower, than in Melbourne:— Prices.

Prices in Melbourne.

Articles.		1884.
Agricultural Produce.		
Wheat	per bushel	4*s.*2*d.* to 5*s.*4*d.*
Barley	„	4*s.*3*d.* to 5*s.*9*d.*
Oats	„	2*s.*9*d.* to 3*s.*8*d.*
Maize	„	3*s.* 10*d.* to 5*s.* 10*d.*
Bran	„	11*d.* to 1*s.* 1*d.*
Hay	per ton	3*l.* to 6*l.* 10*s.*
Flour, first quality	„	9*l.* to 11*l.* 10*s.*
Bread	per 4 lb. loaf	5½*d.* to 7*d.*
Grazing Produce.		
Horses:—		
Draught	each	25*l.* to 50*l.*
Saddle and harness	„	8*l.* to 25*l.*
Cattle:—		
Fat	„	4*l.* to 14*l.*
Milch cows	„	5*l.* to 10*l.*
Sheep, fat	„	7*s.* 6*d.* to 18*s*
Lambs, fat	„	5*s.* to 12*s.*

Articles.		1884.
Butchers meat:—		
Beef, retail	per lb.	3*d.* to 8*d.*
Mutton „	„	2*d.* to 5*d.*
Veal „	„	5*d.* to 8*d.*
Pork „	„	6*d.* to 10*d.*
Lamb „	per quarter	2*s.* to 3*s.* 6*d.*
Dairy Produce.		
Butter, colonial, retail	per lb.	8*d.* to 1*s.* 10*d.*
Cheese, colonial	„	8*d.* to 1*s.*
Milk	per quart	4*d.* to 6*d.*
Farm-Yard Produce.		
Geese	per couple	6*s.* to 10*s.*
Ducks	„	4*s.* to 6*s.*
Fowls	„	3*s.* to 6*s.*
Rabbits	„	9*d.* to 1*s.* 3*d.*
Pigeons	„	1*s.* 6*d.* to 3*s.*
Turkeys	each	4*s.* to 15*s.*
Sucking pigs	„	10*s.* to 14*s.*
Bacon	per lb.	7*d.* to 10*d.*
Ham	„	8*d.* to 1*s.*
Eggs	per doz.	1*s.* to 2*s.* 3*d.*
Garden Produce.		
Potatoes	per cwt.	3*s.* to 6*s.*
Onions, dried	„	4*s.* to 20*s.*
Carrots	per doz. bunches	6*d.* to 9*d.*
Turnips	„ „	4*d.* to 1*s.* 3*d.*
Radishes	„ „	4*d.* to 6*d.*
Cabbages	per doz.	6*d.* to 4s.
Cauliflowers	„	9*d.* to 6*s.*
Lettuces	„	6*d.* to 1*s.* 3*d.*
Green pease	per lb.	1*d.* to 4*d.*
Miscellaneous Articles.		
Tea (duty paid)	per lb.	1*s.*3*d.*to 2*s.*6*d.*
Coffee „	„	1*s.*2*d.*to 1*s.*8*d.*
Sugar „	per ton	25*l.* to 34*l.*
Rice	„	14*l.* to 27*l.*
Tobacco (in bond)	per lb.	1*s.*1*d.*to 4*s.*2*d.*
Soap, colonial	per ton	17*l.* to 31*l.*
Candles, sperm, stearine, paraffine, &c.	per lb.	8¼*d.* to 11*d.*
Salt	per ton	3*l.* to 6*l.*
Coals	„	25*s.* to 36*s.*
Firewood	„	9*s.* 6*d.* to 12*s.*
Wines, Spirits, &c.		
Ale	per doz.	5*s.* 6*d.* to 12*s.*
Porter	„	„
Brandy	per gall.	22*s.*6*d.* to 35*s.*
Rum	„	15*s.* to 18*s.*
Whiskey	„	18*s.* to 28*s.*
Geneva	per case 15 bottles	60*s.* to 62*s.* 6*d.*
Port wine	per doz.	33*s.* to 72*s.*
Sherry	„	35*s.* to 75*s.*
Claret	„	32*s.* 6*d.* to 70*s.*
Champagne	„	70*s.* to 105*s.*
Colonial Wine	„	12*s.* to 30*s.*

69. For complete information on many points which have been merely touched upon, and on others which are not even mentioned in this digest, the reader is referred to the "Victorian Year Book,* 1883–4."

(Signed) HENRY HEYLYN HAYTER.

* This is an official publication by the Government Statist, published annually, and may be obtained from the Government printer, Melbourne, the Agent General of Victoria, 8, Victoria Chambers, Westminster, or George Robertson, 17, Warwick Square, London.

Statistical Summary of Victoria from 1881 to 1883 inclusive.*

Year.	Population on 31st December.			Births.	Deaths.	Marriages.	Immigration (by sea).	Emigration (by sea).	General Revenue.	General Expenditure.	Crown Land Sales.†		Land in Cultivation.	Live Stock.				Postage.		
	Persons.	Males.	Females.								Area sold.	Amount realised.		Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.	No. of Post Offices.	Number of Letters.	No. of Newspapers.
									£	£	Acres.	£	Acres.							
1881	882,232	464,222	418,010	27,145	12,302	5,896	59,066	51,744	5,186,011	5,108,642	458,636	574,382	1,821,719	278,195	1,286,677	10,267,265	239,926	1,158	26,308,347	11,440,732
1882	906,225	477,475	428,750	26,747	13,634	6,309	59,404	48,524	5,592,362	5,145,764	441,433	598,079	2,040,916	280,874	1,287,088	10,174,246	237,917	1,218	28,877,977	12,383,928
1883	931,790	493,084	438,706	27,541	13,006	6,771	66,592	55,562	5,611,253	5,651,885	472,378	564,504	2,215,923	286,779	1,297,546	10,739,021	233,525	1,295	30,962,167	13,982,222

Continued.

Year.	Shipping.				Vessels built.		Vessels registered.		Mortgages and Liens.		Imports.	Imports of Breadstuffs (Wheat, Flour, Bread, and Biscuit).		Exports.	Exports of							
	Inwards.		Outwards.												Wool.§		Tallow.		Hides and Skins.	Breadstuffs (Wheat, Flour Bread, and Biscuit).		
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Amount secured.	Total Value.	Quantity.‡	Value.	Total Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Value.	Quantity.‡	Value.	
										£	£	Bushels.	£	£	lbs.	£	lbs.	£	£	Bush.	£	
1881	2,125	1,219,231	2,123	1,192,671	9	698	28	7,138	10,636	6,672,733	16,718,521	157,334	26,464	16,252,103	103,449,080	5,450,029	19,765,760	247,372	114,903	4,050,308	930,640	
1882	2,089	1,349,093	2,079	1,341,791	7	362	34	7,970	9,416	6,985,689	18,748,081	135,858	34,981	16,193,579	108,029,264	5,902,624	13,722,240	189,304	136,105	3,457,390	966,487	
1883	2,023	1,464,752	2,064	1,499,579	5	440	24	6,605	9,024	6,021,120	17,743,846	91,455	21,264	16,398,863	109,615,884	6,054,563	14,960,960	232,400	121,656	2,467,986	651,727	

* The Statistical Summary for several previous years will be found printed at pages 37-38 of [C.-4015] May 1884, pages 70 and 71 of [C.-3642] June 1883, pages 53 and 54 of [C.-3218] of May 1882, and in previous papers.

† In addition to the quantity of land sold and amount realised within the year, the figures under the head "Land Sales" represent, during each of the years after 1868, the total extent of, and amount paid on, lands purchased under deferred payments of which the payments were completed within the year, although such payments had extended over a series of years. The extent selected, of which the purchase had not been completed, is not included in the area sold. This amounted, at the end of 1883, to 7,583,715 acres. Lands, granted without purchase, which amounted up to the end of 1883 to 9,132 acres, are also excluded.

‡ The quantities of flour, bread, and biscuit imported and exported are reduced to their equivalent in bushels on the assumption that one bushel of wheat produces 45 lbs. of either of those articles.

§ Since the year 1864 a considerable quantity of wool has each year been imported into Victoria across the Murray from the Riverina district of New South Wales, for transport by railway to Melbourne and shipment thence. Prior to 1872 no precise record of the quantity so introduced was kept at the Customs. It has, however, been ascertained that at least 13,000,000 lbs. of wool, valued at 972,000*l.*, crossed the Murray into Victoria in the year 1870, and the following amounts in the years named:—19,552,598 lbs., valued at 1,096,772*l.* in 1872; 31,542,913 lbs., valued at 1,745,550*l.*, in 1873; 35,332,089 lbs., valued at 1,975,879*l.*, in 1874; 40,535,081 lbs., valued at 2,260,799*l.*, in 1875; 44,430,185 lbs., valued at 2,039,009*l.*, in 1876; 37,647,218 lbs., valued at 1,661,868*l.*, in 1877; 43,357,702 lbs., valued at 2,081,368*l.* in 1878; 46,561,653 lbs., valued at 2,338,670*l.*, in 1879; 54,865,967 lbs., valued at 2,720,612*l.*, in 1880: 53,090,294 lbs., valued at 2,594,240*l.*, in 1881; 44,213,260 lbs., valued at 2,224,512*l.*, in 1882; and 29,072,345 lbs., valued at 1,355,219*l.* in 1883.

Statistical Summary of Victoria from 1881 to 1883 inclusive—*continued.*

Year.	Gold raised.		Public Debt‡ on Dec. 31.	Government Expenditure* on					Railways.†			Electric Telegraphs.			Banks of Issue.			
	Estimated Quantity.	Value at 4*l.* per oz.		Railways.	Roads and Bridges.	Melbourne Water Supply (Yan Yean).	Other Water-works.	Other Public Works.	Miles opened.	Train Miles travelled.	Total Receipts.	Number of Stations.	Number of Miles of Wire.	Number of Telegrams.	Number of Banks.	Paid-up Capital.	Assets.	Liabilities.
	oz.	£	£	£	£	£	£	£			£					£	£	£
1881	858,850	3,435,400	22,426,502	782,134	31,631	39,929	40,267	317,352	1,247	4,633,267	1,665,209	302	6,626	1,281,749	11	9,143,122	27,173,809	22,902,017
1882	898,536	3,594,144	22,103,202	1,387,711	53,017	46,924	120,244	265,836	1,355	5,069,389	1,781,078	336	6,922	1,418,769	12	9,432,250	31,248,586	25,496,305
1883	810,047	3,240,188	24,308,175	2,117,336	62,376	174,955	204,325	422,754	1,562	5,701,513	1,898,311	343	7,271	1,474,971	12	9,597,750	31,742,507	25,856,709

Continued.

Year.	Savings Banks.			Friendly Societies.‡		Cities, Towns, and Boroughs.			Shires and Road Districts.			Flour Mills.	Manufactories, Works, &c. (exclusive of Flour Mills).	Mining Machines.	Churches and Chapels.	Schools, (public and private.)		Melbourne University.		Number of Persons			
	Number of Savings Banks.	Number of Depositors.	Amount of Balances.	Number of Branches.	Average Number of Members.	Number.	Total Value of Rateable Property.	Revenue.	Number.	Total Value of Rateable Property.	Revenue.					Number of Schools.	Number of Scholars on the Rolls.	Number Matriculated.	Number of Direct Graduates.	Taken into Custody.	Committed for Trial.	Convicted after Commitment.	Executed.
			£				£	£		£	£												
1881	212	107,282	2,569,438	759	48,060	57	32,308,794	457,462	117	55,333,665	557,498	138	2,350	4,415	3,439	2,402	265,485	172	55	25,346	591	332	1
1882	222	122,584	3,121,246	776	51,399	58	34,559,353	458,781	119	57,233,194	652,469	143	2,469	4,149	3,518	2,417	257,388	135	73	26,423	616	402	-
1883	230	136,089	2,818,122	768	55,922	60	37,355,371	486,329	119	58,255,588	600,173	140	2,637	3,768	3,661	2,384	258,201	128	64	27,075	663	350	1

* The figures do not in any case include amounts expended by municipal governments.

† These returns are those of the Government and private railways combined, the latter of which were purchased by the State in July 1878. The returns of the former are, prior to 1871 and subsequently to 1876, for the year ended 31st December; in 1871 for the six months ended 30th June; in 1872 and three following years for the 12 months ended 30th June; in 1876 for the 18 months ended 31st December; and in subsequent years for the 12 months ended 31st December. The returns of private railways are for the year ended 31st December throughout.

‡ Until 1879 the figures did not give particulars of all the Friendly Societies in the Colony, but only of such as furnished returns. For that and subsequent years the returns are complete.

(Signed) HENRY HEYLYN HAYTER, Government Statist.

AUSTRALASIN COLONIES.

AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES.

No. 4.

REPORT ON AUSTRALASIAN STATISTICS.

Office of the Government Statist, Melbourne,
November 22, 1884.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the Australasian statistics for the year 1883.

2. A preliminary return, giving the main features of these statistics, was forwarded by me, for publication in the "Government Gazette," on the 23rd September. It contained authorised particulars relating to every one of the Colonies except New South Wales, respecting which Colony such particulars had not up to that time been furnished by the Government. This being the case, I gave such figures relating to New South Wales as I was able to obtain from other sources, and these, on being compared with the official figures since received, are found to have been in most instances correct.

3. The various Colonies were, as in other years, asked to furnish the information necessary for compiling these statistics by the 30th June, and very shortly after that date all the particulars respecting Victoria were ready. From the other Colonies, however, the returns were not received until the following dates:—

Fiji - - -	- 16th July.
New Zealand -	- - 17th July.
South Australia	- - 24th July.
Queensland -	- - 15th August.
Tasmania -	- - 16th August.
Western Australia	- - 19th August.
New South Wales	- - 22nd November.*

4. In addition to the information embodied in the Australasian statistics of former years, the following fresh items have been given upon the present occasion:—

Table IV.—The revenue of each Colony from Crown lands, from railways, and from other sources, as well as the revenue raised by taxation.

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* The return for New South Wales was first received on the 15th October. In consequence of errors appearing on the face of it, it was at once referred back, and was again received on the 3rd November, but an important error still remaining uncorrected, it was necessarily referred back a second time, and was not finally received until this date.

Table VI.—The imports and exports divided, so as to show the value of goods received by each Colony from and sent by each Colony to the other Australasian Colonies and countries out of Australasia. AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES.

Table IX.—The land granted without purchase and the land in process of alienation with deferred payment. (Some of the Colonies have been unable to supply this information.)

Table X.—This table, which gives statistics of State education, is altogether new.

5. The statistics of Fiji, which have now been received for six consecutive years, are, as usual, published after the tables relating to the other colonies.

6. The folding sheet at the commencement has been made complete for eleven years by the addition of the figures for 1883.

7. The whole of the information now presented will be utilised and commented upon in a future issue of the "Victorian Year-Book."

8. It is my duty to point out that the portion of these returns which relates to population ought not to be wholly relied upon. In consequence of the fact that persons in every one of the Colonies are constantly leaving by sea without their departure being noted, whilst each Colony keeps a substantially correct account of all the arrivals by sea, the estimate of population based upon such returns must always overstate the truth. If the deficiency in one Colony is made up by accessions of population overland, the inaccuracy will be all the greater in the Colony or Colonies from which those persons have come. The returns of the last census showed the population of the Australian continent to have been over-estimated by 101,260. There is reason to believe that if another census were to be taken now the present estimate would be found to be too high by at least a third of that number.

9. At the time Melbourne was the terminus of the steamers of the P. and O. Company, and before the steamers of the Orient and Messageries lines had commenced to run, it was possible—so far as this Colony was concerned—to obtain tolerably correct returns by substituting the returns of arrivals from Victoria, recorded in the other Colonies, for the departures for those Colonies, recorded by our own immigration authorities; but since so many passengers leave by steamers touching at Victoria *en route* to other places, this plan has failed entirely, the returns of the passengers embarking at the various ports being mixed up in such a manner that it is not possible to distinguish those who came on board at Melbourne from the others. Thus passengers embarking in Melbourne by one of the ocean steamers for Sydney would perhaps on arriving there be set down as from Adelaide or Europe; and passengers embarking here by the same steamer for Adelaide, on her return voyage, would perhaps be set down there as from Sydney; or perhaps the Sydney passengers, as well as the Melbourne ones, might all be set down as from Melbourne.

AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES.

10. This matter has repeatedly been brought to the notice of the immigration authorities and of the Government by myself, and I believe that in this Colony more care to secure accuracy is now exercised than there was formerly. Still there is ample evidence to show that a considerable number of persons leave Victoria each year for the other Colonies by sea without their departure being noted; and these, as I have already stated, it is impossible to trace from the returns of the Colony in which they arrive. A similar source of error exists in every one of the other Colonies, and therefore the estimated population of each, so far as it is based upon the difference between the returns of immigration and emigration, must always be greater than the actual population.

11. To secure accuracy it would be necessary that the returns furnished by each vessel calling at several ports on arriving should state distinctly what passengers joined at each port; and on leaving what passengers embarked for each of the ports she was going to call at. Care also should be taken that returns be made of all passengers joining the ship at the last moment; and it is, moreover, desirable that the returns of all the Colonies should be kept upon a uniform principle. These ends could probably not be attained without the immigration authorities of the different Colonies meeting in conference. Such a conference, I would suggest, should be held as soon as may be convenient.

12. Until better arrangements are made than those existing at present, not only will the population returns of each individual Colony be unreliable, but in Australia, taken as a whole, either with or without the addition of Tasmania and New Zealand, the apparent will exceed the actual population by a number which will be increasingly large at each successive estimate.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY HEYLYN HAYTER,
Government Statist.

The Hon. the Chief Secretary,
&c. &c. &c.

TABLE I.—POPULATION, 1883.

(Exclusive of Aborigines, except a few in Victoria and New South Wales.)

Name of Colony.	Area in Square Miles.	On the 31st December.						Estimated Mean Population of the Year.		
		Estimated Population.			Number of—		Persons to the Square Mile.	Males.	Females.	Total.
		Males.	Females.	Total.	Males to 100 Females.	Females to 100 Males.				
Victoria - - - -	87,884	493,084	438,706	931,790*	112·39	88·97	10·602	483,960	433,350	917,310
New South Wales - -	309,175	480,497	388,813	869,310†	123·58	80·92	2·812	464,920	378,469	843,389
Queensland - - -	668,224	169,990	117,485	287,475	144·69	69·11	·430	157,791	110,074	267,865
South Australia - - -	903,425	160,589	143,926	304,515‡	111·58	89·62	·337	157,962	141,050	299,012
Western Australia - -	975,920	18,005	13,695	31,700	131·47	76·06	·032	17,778	13,455	31,233
Total - -	2,944,628	1,322,165	1,102,625	2,424,790	119·91	83·40	·823	1,282,411	1,076,398	2,358,809
Tasmania - - -	26,375	66,972	59,248	126,220	113·04	88·47	4·786	66,052	58,298	124,350
New Zealand - - -	104,027	294,665	246,212	540,877	119·68	83·56	5·199	288,984	240,308	529,292
Grand Total -	3,075,030	1,683,802	1,408,085	3,091,887	119·58	83·62	1·005	1,637,447	1,375,004	3,012,451

NOTE.—In consequence of persons leaving by sea without their departure being recorded, there is no doubt that, in most of the Colonies, the estimated population, as given in the table, is higher than the actual population; and although it may be possible, in the case of a continental Colony, that the loss by sea may be made up by overland immigration at the expense of its neighbours, yet, until some better system of recording the departures by sea is adopted, the figures for the insular Colonies and for the whole of Australia and the whole of Australasia will always overstate the truth.

* On the 30th September 1884, the estimated population of Victoria was 952,836, viz., 505,467 males and 447,369 females.

† On the 30th June 1884, the estimated population of New South Wales was 895,533, viz., 495,789 males and 399,744 females.

‡ On the 1st August 1884, the estimated total population of South Australia was 315,337.

TABLE II.—BIRTHS, DEATHS, AND MARRIAGES, 1883.

Name of Colony.	Births of—			Deaths of—			Marriages.*	Per 1000 of Mean Population.†—Number of—			Excess of Births over Deaths.		Males to 100 Females.	
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.		Births.	Deaths.	Marriages.*	Numerical.	Per cent.	Born.	Died.
Victoria - - -	14,109	13,432	27,541	7,410	5,596	13,006	6,771	30·02	14·18	7·38	14,535	111·76	105·04	132·42
New South Wales - -	16,014	15,267	31,281	7,116	5,133	12,249	7,405	37·09	14·52	8·78	19,032	155·38	104·89	138·63
Queensland - -	5,093	4,797	9,890	3,282	1,759	5,041	2,392	36·92	18·82	8·93	4,849	96·19	106·17	186·58
South Australia -	5,677	5,496	11,173	2,444	1,991	4,435	2,539	37·37	14·83	8·49	6,738	151·93	103·29	122·75
Western Australia -	541	517	1,058	384	176	560	217	33·87	17·93	6·95	498	88·93	104·64	218·18
Total - -	41,434	39,509	80,943	20,636	14,655	35,291	19,324	34·31	14·96	8·19	45,652	129·36	104·87	140·81
Tasmania - - -	2,235	2,024	4,259	1,263	859	2,122	1,120	34·25	17·06	9·01	2,137	100·71	110·42	147·03
New Zealand - -	9,843	9,359	19,202	3,469	2,592	6,061	3,612	36·28	11·45	6·82	13,141	216·81	105·17	133·83
Grand Total -	53,512	50,892	104,404	25,368	18,106	43,474	24,056	34·66	14·43	7·99	60,930	140·15	105·15	140·11

* The numbers in these two columns doubled give the total number of persons married, and the number married in proportion to every thousand of the mean population.
† In calculating these results the mean populations shown in the last column of Table I. have been used.

TABLE III.—IMMIGRATION AND EMIGRATION, 1883.

Name of Colony.	Number of Immigrants.									Number of Emigrants.†			Excess of Immigrants over Emigrants.‡		
	Assisted and Free.			Unassisted.			Total.								
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Victoria - -	—	—	—	46,391	20,201	66,592	46,391	20,201	66,592	37,481	18,081	55,562	8,910	2,120	11,030
New South Wales-	4,524	3,845	8,369	42,019	16,818	58,837	46,543	20,663	67,206	24,286	10,110	34,396	22,257	10,553	32,810
Queensland -	14,666	10,579	25.245	936	504	1,440	15,602	11,083	26,685	9,240	2,719	11,959	6,362	8,364	14,726
South Australia -	1,959	2,170	4,129	10,920	4,781	15,701	12,879	6,951	19,830	10,858	4,704	15,562	2,021	2,247	4,268
Western Australia	167	129	296	*	*	1,211	*	*	1,507	*	*	1,071	*	*	436
Total - -	21,316	16,723	38,039	*	*	143,781	*	*	181,820	*	*	118,550	*	*	63,270
Tasmania - -	313	285	598	9,276	4,366	13,642	9,589	4,651	14,240	8,720	3,916	12,636	869	735	1,604
New Zealand -	2,260	3,642	5,902	8,958	4,355	13,313	11,218	7,997	19,215	6,230	2,956	9,186	4,988	5,041	10,029
Grand Total -	23,889	20,650	44,539	*	*	170,736	*	*	215,275	*	*	140,372	*	*	74,903§

NOTE. — The Immigration and Emigration in this table is by sea. No official account is or can be taken of the number of persons going overland from one Colony to another.

* Where asterisks occur, the information has not been furnished or is incomplete.

† The figures in these columns understate the truth. Many persons leave all the Colonies by sea without their departure being noted.

‡ In consequence of the Emigration returns being defective, as stated in the last footnote, the figures in these columns are too high.

§ According to Imperial returns the number of persons who left the United Kingdom for the Australasian Colonies in 1883 was 73,017, and the number who returned to the United Kingdom from these Colonies was 7,155. The excess in favour of departures was thus 65,862.

Table IV.—Public Revenue and Expenditure, 1883.

Name of Colony.	Date on which Financial Year terminates.	Public Revenue from :—				Total Revenue (exclusive of Loans).	Total Expenditure (exclusive of Loans).
		Taxation.*	Crown Lands.	Railways.	Other Sources.		
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Victoria† - - - -	30th June -	2,334,255	679,933	1,838,284	758,781	5,611,253	5,651,885
New South Wales - - -	31st December	1,891,708	1,656,069	1,931,464	991,100	6,470,341	8,048,319
Queensland - - - -	31st December	929,430	773,387	541,617	339,010	2,583,444	2,242,971
South Australia - - -	31st December	637,751	372,180	519,097	531,112	2,060,140	2,330,079
Western Australia - - -	31st December	126,131	93,798	14,515	82,275	316,719	240,566
Total - - -	—	5,919,275	3,575,367	4,844,977	2,702,278	17,041,897	18,513,820
Tasmania‡ - - -	31st December	388,406	66,566	29,559	77,658	562,189	533,036
New Zealand - - -	31st December	2,080,084§	348,783	953,910	488,490	3,871,267	3,924,005
Grand Total - -	—	8,387,765	3,990,716	5,828,446	3,268,426	21,475,353	22,970,861

* The amounts in this column are made up of Customs duties, less duties on the export of gold, drawbacks, &c.; also of Excise duties, including licences imposed for revenue purposes; duties on bank notes; stamps, other than those for fees of office; legacy, succession, and probate duties; property and income taxes; and any other impost, payable to the General Government, levied distinctly as a tax; but excluding fees, licences, and charges for special services rendered.

† According to a preliminary statement made up in the Treasury and distributed to Members of the Legislative Assembly, the figures for Victoria during the year ended 30th June 1884 were as follow:—Revenue raised by taxation, 2,308,873*l.*; from Crown lands, 719,312*l.*; from railways, 2,079,248*l.*; from other sources, 826,808; total revenue, 5,934,241*l.*; estimated total expenditure, exclusive of 10,100*l.* for redemption of Treasury Bonds, 5,776,813*l.* The estimated mean population of the same period was 930,940; therefore the revenue per head was 6*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*; the expenditure per head was 6*l.* 4*s.* 1*d.*; and the taxation per head was 2*l.* 9*s.* 8*d.*

‡ The figures for Tasmania are subject to future revision.

§ The proportion of the revenue of New Zealand derived from taxation has been only estimated.

Table IV.—Public Revenue and Expenditure, 1883—*continued.*

Name of Colony.	Proportion of Revenue raised by Taxation.	Per Head of Mean Population.*					
		Taxation.	Land Revenue.	Railway Revenue.	Revenue from other Sources.	Total Revenue.	Total Expenditure.
	Per cent.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Victoria† - - - -	41·60	2 11 7	0 15 0	2 0 8	0 16 10	6 4 1	6 4 11
New South Wales - - -	29·24	2 4 10	1 19 3	2 5 10	1 3 6	7 13 5	9 10 10
Queensland - - - -	35·98	3 9 5	2 17 9	2 0 5	1 5 4	9 12 11	8 7 6
South Australia - - -	30·96	2 2 8	1 4 11	1 14 9	1 15 6	6 17 10	7 15 10
Western Australia - - -	39·82	4 0 9	3 0 1	0 9 4	2 12 8	10 2 10	7 14 1
Total - - -	34·73	2 10 5	1 10 6	2 1 4	1 3 1	7 5 3	7 17 10
Tasmania‡ - - -	69·09	3 2 6	0 10 8	0 4 9	0 12 6	4 10 5	4 5 9
New Zealand - - -	53·73	3 18 7	0 13 2	1 16 1	0 18 5	7 6 3	7 8 3
Grand Total - -	39·06	2 15 11	1 6 7	1 18 10	1 1 10	7 3 2	7 13 2

* In calculating the amounts for Victoria the mean population during the year 1882–3 (904,646) has been taken. For the other Colonies the figures of mean population shown in the last column of Table I. have been used.

† According to a preliminary statement made up in the Treasury and distributed to Members of the Legislative Assembly, the figures for Victoria during the year ended 30th June 1884 were as follow:—Revenue raised by taxation, 2,308,873*l.*; from Crown lands, 719,312*l.*; from railways, 2,079,248*l.*; from other sources, 826,808*l.*; total revenue, 5,934,241*l.*; estimated total expenditure, exclusive of 10,100*l.* for redemption of Treasury Bonds, 5,776,813*l.* The estimated mean population of the same period was 930,940; therefore the revenue per head was 6*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*; the expenditure per head was 6*l.* 4*s.* 1*d.*; and the taxation per head was 2*l.* 9*s.* 8*d.*

‡ The figures for Tasmania are subject to future revision.

Table V.—Public Debt, 1883.

Name of Colony.	On the 31st December.		Number of Years' Revenue Debt is equal to.†
	Total Amount of Public Debt.	Indebtedness per Head of Population.*	
	£	£ s. d.	
Victoria‡	24,308,175	26 1 9	4·33
New South Wales	21,632,459	24 17 8	3·34
Queensland	14,907,850	51 17 2	5·77
South Australia	13,891,900	45 12 5	6·74
Western Australia	611,000	19 5 6	1·93
Total	75,351,384	31 1 6	4·42
Tasmania	2,385,600	18 18 0	4·24
New Zealand	31,385,411§	58 0 6	8·11
Grand Total	109,122,395	35 5 10	5·09

* In calculating these results the populations on the 31st December shown in the fifth column of Table I. have been used.

† In calculating these results the figures of public revenue given in Table IV. have been used.

‡ On the 30th June 1884 the Public Debt of Victoria was 28,325,112*l*. The estimated population at that date was 945,703, and the approximate revenue of the financial year ended with that date was 5,934,241*l*. The amount of indebtedness per head was thus 29*l*. 19*l*., and the debt was equivalent to 4·90 years' revenue.

§ The Accrued Sinking Fund of New Zealand amounted on the 31st December to 2,715,094*l*. The net liability was therefore 28,670,317*l*.

Table VI.—Imports and Exports, 1883.

Name of Colony.	Total Value of Imports.			Total Value of Exports.			Value of Exports of Home Produce.
	From other Australasian Colonies.	From other Countries.	Total.	To other Australasian Colonies.	To other Countries.	Total.	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Victoria - - - -	5,658,854	12,084,992	17,743,846	5,744,780	10,654,083	16,398,863	13,292,294
New South Wales - - -	8,196,287	12,763,870	20,960,157	8,409,911	11,476,107	19,886,018	16,129,867
Queensland - - - -	3,222,672	3,010,679	6,233,351	3,227,226	2,049,382	5,276,608	5,156,835
South Australia - - -	1,867,109	4,442,946	6,310,055	1,828,079	3,055,382	4,883,461	3,487,827
Western Australia - - -	246,404	270,443	516,847	85,852	361,158	447,010	444,764
Total - - -	19,191,326	32,572,930	51,764,256	19,295,848	27,596,112	46,891,960	38,511,587
Tasmania - - - -	1,046,257	786,380	1,832,637	1,348,393	383,206	1,731,599	1,698,334
New Zealand - - -	1,576,183	6,397,855	7,974,038	1,109,813	5,986,186	7,095,999	6,855,244
Grand Total - -	21,813,766	39,757,165	61,570,931	21,754,054	33,965,504	55,719,558	47,065,165

Table VI.—Imports and Exports, 1883—*continued.*

Name of Colony.	Value per Head of Imports.*			Value per Head of Exports.*			Exports of Home Produce.	
	From other Australasian Colonies.	From other Countries.	Total.	To other Australasian Colonies.	To other Countries.	Total.	Value per Head.	Per-centage of Total Exports.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Victoria - - - -	6 3 5	13 3 5	19 6 10	6 5 3	11 12 4	17 17 7	14 9 10	81·06
New South Wales - - -	9 14 5	15 2 8	24 17 1	9 19 5	13 12 2	23 11 7	19 2 6	81·11
Queensland - - - -	12 0 8	11 4 9	23 5 5	12 1 0	7 13 0	19 14 0	19 5 1	97·73
South Australia - - -	6 4 11	14 17 2	21 2 1	6 2 3	10 4 5	16 6 8	11 13 3	71·42
Western Australia - - -	7 17 10	8 13 2	16 11 0	2 15 0	11 11 3	14 6 3	14 4 10	99·50
Total - - -	8 2 9	13 16 2	21 18 11	8 3 7	11 14 0	19 17 7	16 6 6	82·13
Tasmania - - - -	8 8 3	6 6 6	14 14 9	10 16 10	3 1 8	13 18 6	13 13 2	98·08
New Zealand - - - -	2 19 7	12 1 9	15 1 4	2 1 11	11 6 3	13 8 2	12 19 0	96·61
Grand Total - -	7 4 10	13 3 11	20 8 9	7 4 5	11 5 6	18 9 11	15 12 6	84·47

* In calculating these results the mean populations shown in the last column of Table I. have been used.

TABLE VII.—SHIPPING, 1883.

Name of Colony.	Inwards.		Outwards.		Total.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
Victoria - - - -	2,023	1,464,752	2,064	1,499,579	4,087	2,964,331
New South Wales - - -	2,587	1,935,189	2,774	2,071,048	5,361	4,006,237
Queensland* - - - -	936	455,985	867	426,506	1,803	882,491
South Australia - - -	1,062	748,926	1,074	755,839	2,136	1,504,765
Western Australia - - -	219	194,273	212	194,829	431	389,102
Total - - -	6,827	4,799,125	6,991	4,947,801	13,818	9,746,926
Tasmania - - - -	657	230,092	648	241,630	1,305	471,722
New Zealand - - - -	805	494,926	851	507,565	1,656	1,002,491
Grand Total - -	8,289	5,524,143	8,490	5,696,996	16,779	11,221,139

* The figures in this line are much smaller than those given in the previous year in consequence of vessels in the coasting trade being, for the first time, excluded.

Table VIII.—Railways and Electric Telegraphs, 1883.

Name of Colony.	On the 31st December.						
	Number of Miles of Railway.			Number of Miles of Electric Telegraph.			
				Line (Poles).			Wire open.
	Open.	In course of Construction.	Total.	Open.	In course of Construction.	Total.	
Victoria - - - -	1,562*	133	1,695	3,660	30	3,690	7,271
New South Wales - - -	1,365†	597	1,962	9,315	369	9,684	17,272
Queensland - - - -	1,038	454	1,492	6,654	390	7,044	10,618
South Australia - - -	988	225	1,213	5,278	49	5,327	8,824
Western Australia - - -	115‡	68	183	1,585	750	2,335	1,609
Total - - -	5,068	1,477	6,545	26,492	1,588	28,080	45,594
Tasmania - - - -	167	222	389	1,273§	20	1,293	,543
New Zealand - - -	1,480‖	201	1,681	4,074	18	4,092	10,037
Grand Total - -	6,715	1,900	8,615	31,839	1,626	33,465	57,174

* Consisting of 205 miles of double and 1,357 miles of single line.

† Inclusive of a private line, 45 miles in length. In addition to the railways there are over 32 miles of Government tramways open.

‡ Including a private line of rail and tramway 60 miles in length.

§ Including 133 miles of poles and wire belonging to the Main Line Railway Company; also the Tasmanian cable, 180 miles long, connecting Tasmania with the Australian continent at Flinders, Victoria.

‖ Including a private line 91 miles in length.

Table IX.—Crown Lands alienated, 1883.

Name of Colony.	Area.	Extent sold.†			Extent granted without Payment to end of 1883.	Total Extent sold and granted to end of 1883.	Extent unalienated in Fee-simple at end of 1883.‡
		Prior to 1883.	During 1883.	Total.			
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Victoria - - - -	56,245,760	13,047,526	472,377	13,519,903	9,133	13,529,036	42,716,724
New South Wales - - -	197,872,000	40,363,767	1,792,937	42,156,704	*§	*	*
Queensland - - - -	427,663,360	5,948,841	634,730	6,583,571	64,250	6,647,821	421,015,539
South Australia - - -	578,192,000	6,268,301	225,766	6,494,067	330,000	6,824,067	57',367,933
Western Australia - - -	624,588,800	1,688,978	30,522	1,719,500	*	*	*
Total - - -	1,884,561,920	67,317,413	3,156,332	70,473,745	*	*	*
Tasmania - - - -	16,880,000	4,265,125	37,632	4,302,757	*§	*	*
New Zealand - - - -	66,577,160	12,373,250	113,500	12,486,750	4,943,271	17,430,021	49,147,139‖
Grand Total - -	1,968,019,080	83,955,788	3,307,464	87,263,252	*	*	*

* Where asterisks occur the information has not been furnished or is incomplete.

† The figures in these columns are intended to represent the lands of which the purchase had been completed prior to or during 1883, as the case might be. The figures for New South Wales and Tasmania, however, denote instead the land sold conditionally, in addition to lands sold by auction, &c.; including also land granted without purchase, the extent so granted in the former Colony in 1883 being 2,534 acres. The purchase money of the lands sold conditionally in New South Wales during 1883, viz., 1,621,948 acres, has been computed at 1*l.* per acre.

‡ This column includes the land in process of alienation under deferred payment system, as per next column.

§ Included in the previous column. *See* note ‡.

‖ Of this extent about 16,000,000 acres belong to the Maoris or to Europeans who have purchased from them.

Table IX.—Crown Lands alienated, 1883—*continued.*

Name of Colony.	Extent in process of Alienation under deferred Payments at end of 1883.†	Amount of Purchase Money.					
		Total.			Average per Acre.		
		Prior to 1883.	During 1883.	Total.	Prior to 1883.	During 1883.	Total.
	Acres.	£	£	£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Victoria - - - -	7,583,715	20,780,858	564,504	21,345,362	1 11 10	1 3 11	1 11 7
New South Wales - - -	22,020,440	37,763,621*	1,878,930	39,642,551	*	1 1 0	*
Queensland - - - -	4,099,858	4,257,911	324,109	4,582,020	0 14 4	0 10 3	0 13 11
South Australia - - -	3,659,622	8,134,217	257,516	8,391,733	1 5 11	1 2 10	1 5 10
Western Australia - - -	188,439	*	11,472	*	*	0 7 6	*
Total - - -	37,552,074	*	3,036,531	*	*	0 19 3	*
Tasmania - - - -	*	*	52,895	*	*	1 8 1	*
New Zealand‡ - - -	580,670	12,156,069	141,250	12,297,319	0 19 8	1 4 11	0 19 8
Grand Total - -	*	*	3,230,676	*	*	0 19 7	*

* Where asterisks occur the information has not been furnished or is ncomplete.
† Exclusive of the extent estimated to have been forfeited for non-fulfilment of conditions, &c.
‡ In the case of New Zealand the "cash received" is given instead of the purchase money.

Table X.—State Education, 1883.

Name of Colony.	At the end of 1883.				Number of Scholars on the Rolls during 1883.		
	Number of State Schools.	Number of Teachers.					
		Males.	Females.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Victoria - - - -	1,777	1,793	1,838	3,631*	114,199	108,229	222,428
New South Wales - -	1,715	1,527	1,460	2,987	80,709	75,115	155,824
Queensland - - - -	387	510	517	1,027	24,475	21,676	46,151
South Australia - - -	431	384	568	952	23,558†	23,426†	46,984
Western Australia‡ - - -	76	37	63	100	1,569	1,457	3,026
Total - - -	4,386	4,251	4,446	8,697	244,510	229,903	474,413
Tasmania - - - -	183	151	202	353	5,380	4,328	9,708
New Zealand - - -	943	1,064	1,227	2,291	45,804†	45,207†	91,011
Grand Total - -	5,512	5,466	5,875	11,341	295,694	279,438	575,132

Note.—The State system of education is compulsory and undenominational (or secular) in all the Colonies, and Western Australia is now the only Colony which grants assistance to denominational (private) schools. Public instruction is free in Victoria, Queensland, and New Zealand; but fees are charged in the other Colonies, although they are partially or entirely remitted in cases where the parents are unable to pay them. For a complete account of the educational systems of the various Colonies, *see* "Victorian Year-Book," 1880–81, pp. 431 to 459.

* Including 1,072 pupil-teachers, but exclusive of 553 work-mistresses.

† These figures have been calculated from the proportions of the sexes between the ages of 5 and 15 at the last census, as the information was not supplied for the present return.

‡ Exclusive of assisted schools, of which there are about 20.

Table X.—State Education, 1883—*continued.*

Name of Colony.	Proportion of—			Net Cost to State, 1883.			Amount of Fees paid by Scholars.
	Male Scholars to Male Population.	Female Scholars to Female Population.	Scholars to a Teacher.	Total Amount.	Amount per Head of Mean Population.	Amount per Scholar.	
	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£
Victoria - - - -	23·60	24·97	61·26	642,197	0 14 0	2 17 9	4,832*
New South Wales - -	17·36	19·85	52·17	821,853	0 19 6	5 5 6	51,427
Queensland - - - -	15·51	19·69	44·94	119,597	0 9 0	2 11 10	Nil.
South Australia - - -	14·91	16·61	49·35	122,651	0 8 2	2 12 2	23,304
Western Australia - - -	8·83	10·83	30·26	7,819	0 5 0	2 11 8	1,419
Total - - -	19·07	21·36	54·55	1,714,117	0 14 6	3 12 3	80,982
Tasmania - - -	8·15	7·42	27·50	40,191	0 6 6	4 2 10	7,383
New Zealand	15·85	18·81	39·73	350,291	0 13 3	3 17 0	686*
Grand Total	18·06	20·32	50·71	2,104,599	0 14 0	3 13 2	89,051

* For extra subjects only.

TABLE XI.—AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS, 1883-4.—LAND IN CULTIVATION.

*** The Agricultural Statistics in most of the Colonies are collected in the months of February and March of each year. The present returns are for those months of 1884. In calculating the rates of tillage per head, the population at the 31st of December 1883 has been taken.

Name of Colony.	Number of Acres under Tillage.		Number of Acres under—									
	Total.	Per Head. of Population.	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Maize.	Other Cereals.*	Potatoes.	Hay.	Vines.	Green Forage.†	Other Tillage.‡
Victoria - - -	2,215,923	2·38	1,104,392	188,161	46,832	2,570	31,703	40,195	302,957	7,326	286,866	204,921§
New South Wales -	789,082	·91	289,757	17,810	5,081	123,634	1,425	14,954	178,504	2,660	107,994	47,263
Queensland - -	167,476	·58	9,879	125	241	56,463	—	5,468	17,727	1,198	13,233	63,142‖
South Australia - -	2,754,560	9·05	1,846,151	5,491	13,475	—	3,590	6,063	366,934	4,280	33,172	475,404
Western Australia¶ -	61,449	1·94	28,768	1,395	5,547	28	530	310	20,295	725	—	3,851
Total - -	5,988,490	2·47	3,278,947	212,982	71,176	182,695	37,248	66,990	886,417	16,189	441,265	794,581
Tasmania - - -	393,993	3·12	41,301	23,160	3,205	—	6,103	9,601	41,414	—	153,382	115,827
New Zealand** - -	1,412,300	2·61	377,706	262,954	32,907	4,435	—	21,102	73,997	—	83,020	556,179
Grand Total -	7,794,783	2·52	3,697,954	499,096	107,288	187,130	43,351	97,693	1,001,828	16,189	677,667	1,466,587

* Including beans and pease, except in the case of New South Wales.

† In addition to crops sown for the purpose of being cut green for cattle, this column contains the following areas laid down in permanent artificial grass in the Colonies named:—Victoria, 281,903 acres; South Australia, 22,603 acres; Western Australia (not returned); Tasmania, 152,248 acres.

‡ In the returns of some of the Colonies this column embraces land in fallow as well as land under crop. The following are the areas in fallow included in the returns of such Colonies:—Victoria, 174,607 acres; Queensland, 10,233 acres; South Australia, 453,637 acres; Tasmania, 24,140 acres; Western Australia, 3,851 acres; New Zealand, 184,198 acres.

§ Including 572 acres under turnips, carrots, parsnips, cabbage, and beet, which produced 5,276 tons; 1,056 acres under mangel wurzel, which produced 18,906 tons; 1,235 acres under onions, which produced 6,977 tons; 1,325 acres under tobacco, which produced 9,124 cwt.; 283 acres under chicory, which produced 1,626 tons; 1,758 acres under hops, which produced 15,717 cwt.; 2,686 acres under grass seeds, which produced 41,964 bushels, &c.

‖ Including 316 acres under cotton, which produced 70,020 lbs.; 47,898 under sugar-cane, of which 26,667 acres were productive and yielded 36,767 tons of sugar; 228 acres under arrowroot, which produced 390,964 lbs.; 399 acres under oranges, which produced 489,344 dozen; 526 acres under bananas, which produced 593,914 dozen; 236 acres under pine apples, which produced 121,438 dozen.

¶ In Western Australia the extent under green forage and other tillage was not returned.

** In the figures for New Zealand the land under permanent artificial grass, amounting to 4,734,646 acres—of which 2,274,491 acres had been, and 2,460,155 acres had not been, previously ploughed—is not entered as green forage, nor, with the exception of 73,997 acres, embracing some of the ploughed and some of the unploughed portion, the grass on which was mowed for hay, is it included in the total area under tillage, as in the other Colonies. Were the whole so placed, it would bring the land under tillage up to 6,146,946 acres, or to 11·36 acres per head of the population

o 14250.

TABLE XII.—AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS, 1883–4.—PRODUCE OF CROPS.

Name of Colony.	Bushels raised of—					Tons raised of—		Gallons of Wine made.
	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Maize.	Other Cereals.*	Potatoes.	Hay.	
Victoria - - - -	15,570,245	4,717,624	1,069,803	117,294	807,820	161,088	433,143	723,560
New South Wales - - -	4,345,437	376,635	106,496	4,538,604	20,353	36,977	229,242	589,604
Queensland - - - -	42,842	1,112	3,190	1,619,140	—	14,236	24,627	119,295
South Australia - - -	14,649,230	80,467	188,806	—	52,816	25,557	388,719	358,606
Western Australia† - - -	373,984	23,715	88,768	812	5,830	930	20,295	—
Total - - -	34,981,738	5,199,553	1,457,063	6,275,850	886,819	238,788	1,096,026	1,791,065
Tasmania - - - -	732,718	634,354	81,962	—	115,238	34,509	53,421	—
New Zealand - - - -	9,827,136	9,231,339	964,456	—	—	113,198	102,649	—
Grand Total - - -	45,541,592	15,065,246	2,503,481	6,275,850	1,002,057	386,495	1,252,096	1,791,065

* Including beans and pease, except in the case of Now South Wales.
† The produce of crops given for Western Australia is the result of an estimate made by the Government of that Colony.

Table XII.—Agricultural Statistics, 1883–4.—Produce of Crops—*continued.*

Name of Colony.	Bushels per Acre of—					Tons per Acre of—	
	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Maize.	Other Cereals.*	Potatoes.	Hay.
Victoria - - - -	14·10	25·07	22·84	45·64	25·48	4·01	1·43
New South Wales - - -	15·00	21·15	20·96	36·71	14·28	2·47	1·28
Queensland - - - -	4·34	8·90	13·24	28·68	—	2·60	1·39
South Australia - - -	7·94	14·65	14·01	—	14·71	4·22	1·06
Western Australia† - - -	13·00	17·00	16·00	29·00	11·00	3·00	1·00
Total - - -	10·67	24·41	20·47	34·35	23·81	3·56	1·24
Tasmania - - - -	17·74	27·39	25·57	—	18·88	3·59	1·29
New Zealand - - -	26·02	35·11	29·31	—	—	5·36	1·39
Grand Total - -	12·31	30·18	23·33	34·35	23·11	3·96	1·25

* Including beans and pease, except in the case of New South Wales.
† The produce of crops given for Western Australia is the result of an estimate made by the Government of that Colony.

TABLE XIII.—LIVE STOCK, 1883-4.

*** The Live Stock Statistics in most of the Colonies are collected with the Agricultural Statistics, in the months of February and March. The present returns are for those months of 1884.

Name of Colony.	Number of—					Total Number of Stock of all Descriptions to the Square Mile.
	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Total.	
Victoria - - - -	286,779	1,297,546	10,739,021	233,525	12,556,871	142·88
New South Wales - - -	326,964	1,646,753	34,418,488	189,050	36,581,255	118·32
Queensland - - - -	236,154	4,246,141	11,507,475	51,009	16,040,779	24·00
South Australia - - -	164,360	319,620	6,677,067	108,714	7,269,761	8·05
Western Australia - - -	32,884	64,558	1,315,155	18,512	1,431,109	1·47
Total - - -	1,047,141	7,574,618	64,657,206	600,810	73,879,775	25·09
Tasmania - - - -	26,840	130,525	1,831,069	55,774	2,044,208	77·50
New Zealand* - - - -	161,736	698,637	13,384,075	200,083	14,444,531	138·85
Grand Total - - -	1,235,717	8,403,780	79,872,350	856,667	90,368,514	29·39

* The figures for horses, cattle, and pigs in New Zealand are derived from the returns of the census of 1881.

APPENDIX.

Statistics of Fiji, 1878 to 1883.

*** Fiji consists of from 70 to 80 inhabited islands, the estimated area of which is 7,740 square miles. There are also a number of smaller islands uninhabited. The total area of the group is said to be 8,034 square miles.

Year.	Estimated Population on the 31st December.			Births.*	Deaths.*	Marriages.*	Immigrants (Polynesians and Coolies only).			Emigrants (Polynesians only).			Public Revenue.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.				Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females	Total.	Raised by Taxation.	Not raised by Taxation.	Total.
													£	£	£
1878 - -	64,748	52,350	117,098	2,262	2,244	419	1,346	174	1,520	638	71	709	42,697	18,324	61,021
1879 - -	67,697	52,962	120,659	3,654	3,532	1,356	2,098	288	2,386	313	32	345	46,260	21,511	67,771
1880 - -	67,598	54,286	121,884	4,103	4,326	1,358	2,500	34	2,534	170	18	188	46,544	34,134	80,678
1881 - -	71,323	57,188	128,511	4,321	4,411	1,056	1,100	58	1,158	860	24	884	49,606	37,837	87,443
1882 - -	72,376	57,703	130,079	4,552	4,933	1,280	2,561	511	3,072	1,066	73	1,139	59,518	51,796	111,314
1883 - -	71,540	58,354	129,894	4,649	5,310	1,097	2,013	546	2,559	1,251	94	1,345	74,805	32,009	106,814

Note.—The following information respecting State Education in Fiji has been given for 1883:—Number of schools, 2; number of teachers—males 2, females 6; number of scholars—males 130, females 139; fees paid by scholars 205*l.*; net cost to State 803*l.*; collected by school rates in Suva 915*l.*, in Levuka 1,924*l.*

* It is believed by the Registrar-General of Fiji that the births, deaths, and marriages here given are less than those which actually occurred.

Appendix.—Statistics of Fiji, 1878 to 1883—*continued.*

Year.	Public Expenditure.	Public Debt.	Value of Imports.	Value of Exports.	Shipping.				Crown Lands granted and sold in each Year.*	Live Stock.†			
					Inwards.		Outwards.			Number of—			
					Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.		Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.
	£	£	£	£					Acres.				
1878 - -	65,267	100,000	136,608	192,865	124	23,180	128	24,080	39,476	200	3,000	3,100	50,000
1879 - -	71,108	120,000	142,213	169,040	131	28,967	125	28,085	23,559	300	4,000	3,771	50,000
1880 - -	91,102	210,000	185,741	229,528	157	32,933	150	32,689	27,562	360	5,000	4,769	50,000
1881 - -	89,960	254,025	276,040	174,146	164	35,542	160	35,230	75,627	400	5,000	4,769	50,000
1882 - -	109,986	254,025	303,329	190,517	163	43,768	165	43,757	65,745	600	5,000	4,000	50,000
1883 - -	88,277	254,025	450,595	351,998	198	68,530	193	69,322	31,665	600	5,324	5,373	50,000

* The total area alienated at the end of 1883 was 312,400 acres. The amount realised by the State was only 25,477*l.*, which, however, represents the price of but a small proportion of the acreage alienated. The majority of the grants issued were for lands acquired by whites and others previously to annexation, and these received their titles at the nominal price of 1*s.*

† In addition to the live stock referred to in these columns, 5,902 Angora goats were kept on the islands.

Summary of Australasian Statistics from 1873 to 1883.

Name of Colony. (Area in Square Miles.)	Year.	Population on the 31st December.*	Births.	Deaths.	Marriages.	Immigrants by Sea.	Emigrants by Sea.	Public Revenue.†		Public Expenditure.†	Public Debt on the 31st December.‡	Imports.	Exports.	Shipping Inwards and Outwards.	
								Total.	Proportion raised by Taxation.					Vessels.	Tons.
								£	£	£	£	£	£		
Victoria - - (87,884)	1873	772,039	28,100	11,501	4,974	29,460	26,294	3,644,135	1,784,056	3,504,953	12,445,722	16,533,856	15,302,454	4,413	1,519,015
	1874	783,274	26,800	12,222	4,925	30,732	27,365	4,106,790	1,896,842	4,177,338	13,990,553	16,953,985	15,441,109	4,222	1,569,619
	1875	791,399	26,720	15,287	4,985	32,744	29,342	4,236,423	1,724,822	4,318,121	13,995,093	16,685,874	14,766,974	4,394	1,673,885
	1876	801,717	26,759	13,561	4,949	35,797	31,977	4,325,156	1,780,392	4,572,844	17,011,382	15,705,354	14,196,487	4,236	1,657,088
	1877	815,494	26,010	12,776	5,103	41,196	33,943	4,723,877	1,770,685	4,358,096	17,018,913	16,362,304	15,157,687	4,411	1,874,985
	1878	827,439	26,581	12,702	5,092	42,268	37,492	4,504,413	1,712,953	4,634,349	17,022,065	16,161,880	14,925,707	4,292	1,913,427
	1879	840,620	26,839	12,120	4,986	44,384	39,212	4,621,520	1,730,088	4,833,379	20,050,753	15,035,538	12,454,170	4,167	1,940,222
	1880	860,067	26,148	11,652	5,286	56,955	45,294	4,621,282	1,690,923	4,875,029	22,060,749	14,556,894	15,954,559	4,191	2,179,899
	1881	882,232	27,145	12,302	5,896	59,066	51,744	5,186,011	2,003,704	5,108,642	22,426,502	16,718,521	16,252,103	4,248	2,411,902
	1882	906,225	26,747	13,634	6,309	59,404	48,524	5,592,362	2,317,706	5,145,764	22,103,202	18,748,081	16,193,579	4,168	2,690,884
	1883	931,790	27,541	13,006	6,771	66,592	55,562	5,611,253	2,334,255	5,651,885	24,308,175	17,743,846	16,398,863	4,087	2,964,331
New South Wales. (309,175)	1873	560,275	21,444	7,611	4,384	24,022	16,770	3,324,713	1,382,752	2,333,166	10,842,415	11,088,388	11,815,829	4,373	1,762,478
	1874	584,278	22,178	8,652	4,343	29,756	19,279	3,509,966	1,217,401	2,939,227	10,516,371	11,293,739	12,345,603	4,385	1,990,894
	1875	608,652	22,528	10,771	4,605	30,967	20,350	4,121,996	1,138,901	3,341,324	11,470,637	13,490,200	13,671,580	4,670	2,168,187
	1876	629,776	23,298	11,193	4,630	32,942	21,923	5,033,828	1,161,406	4,749,013	11,759,519	13,672,776	13,003,941	4,578	2,127,725
	1877	662,212	23,851	9,869	4,994	38,628	20,174	5,748,245	1,235,021	4,627,979	11,724,419	14,606,594	13,125,819	4,662	2,237,981
	1878	693,743	25,328	10,763	5,317	39,879	22,913	4,983,864	1,309,717	5,672,154	11,688,119	14,768,873	12,965,879	4,776	2,459,504
	1879	703,143	26,933	10,200	5,391	44,501	20,695	4,475,059	1,272,721	5,839,150	14,937,419	14,198,847	13,086,819	4,787	2,540,724
	1880	739,385	28,162	11,231	5,057	45,870	26,559	4,904,230	1,417,293	5,560,078	14,903,919	13,950,075	15,525,138	4,151	2,432,779
	1881	781,265	28,993	11,536	6,284	47,723	24,825	6,707,963	1,770,848	5,890,580	16,924,019	17,409,326	16,049,503	4,357	2,786,500
	1882	817,468	29,702	12,816	6,948	47,289	27,972	7,410,737	1,903,413	6,347,810	18,721,219	21,281,130	16,716,961	4,777	3,296,665
	1883	869,310	31,281	12,249	7,405	67,206	34,396	6,470,341	1,891,708	8,048,319	21,632,459	20,960,157	19,886,018	5,361	4,006,237

* For later information respecting the population of Victoria, New South Wales, and South Australia, *see* footnotes to Table I., *ante*.

† The revenue and expenditure of Victoria in all the years specified are for the twelve months ended 30th June. In other instances the information relates to the years ended 31st December. For later information respecting Victoria, *see* footnote (†) to Table IV., *ante*.

‡ For information respecting the public debt of Victoria to the 30th June 1884, *see* footnote (‡) to Table V., *ante*.

Summary of Australasian Statistics, from 1873 to 1883—*continued.*

Name of Colony. (Area in Square Miles.)	Year.	Miles of Railway open on the 31st December.	Miles of Telegraph Line (Poles) open on the 31st December.	Crown Lands alienated to the end of each Year.†		AGRICULTURE.								
				Total Extent granted and sold.	Total Amount realised.	Total Cultivation.‡	Wheat.		Oats.		Barley.		Maize.	
						Acres.	Acres.	Bushels.	Acres.	Bushels.	Acres.	Bushels.	Acres.	Bushels.
				Acres.	£									
Victoria - (87,884)	1873	458	2,295	9,401,050	16,207,095	964,996	349,976	4,752,289	110,991	1,741,451	25,333	502,601	1,959	40,347
	1874	605	2,467	9,932,633	16,786,146	1,011,776	332,936	4,850,165	114,921	2,121,612	29,505	619,896	1,523	24,263
	1875	617	2,629	10,351,194	17,416,200	1,126,831	321,401	4,978,914	124,100	2,719,795	31,568	700,665	2,346	37,177
	1876	719	2,743	10,827,778	18,001,113	1,231,105	401,417	5,279,730	115,209	2,294,225	25,034	530,323	1,609	25,909
	1877	950	2,885	11,151,120	18,376,607	1,420,502	564,564	7,018,257	105,234	2,040,486	19,116	378,706	1,215	22,050
	1878	1,052	2,970	11,458,634	18,752,142	1,609,278	691,622	6,060,737	134,428	2,366,026	22,871	417,157	1,939	40,754
	1879	1,125	3,155	11,742,328	19,136,574	1,688,275	707,188	9,398,858	167,615	4,023,271	43,182	1,065,430	2,447	61,887
	1880	1,199	3,215	12,152,527	19,608,398	1,997,943	977,285	9,727,369	134,089	2,362,425	68,630	1,068,830	1,769	49,299
	1881	1,247	3,350	12,614,400	20,182,780	1,821,719	926,729	8,714,377	146,995	3,612,111	48,652	927,566	1,783	81,007
	1882	1,355	3,493	13,056,499	20,780,859	2,040,916	969,362	8,751,454	169,892	4,446,027	43,721	758,477	2,702	131,620
	1883	1,562	3,660	13,529,036	21,345,362	2,215,923	1,104,392	15,570,245	188,161	4,717,624	46,832	1,069,803	2,570	117,294
New South Wales. (309,175,)	1873	401	*	14,066,133	10,719,901	456,825	166,647	2,238,414	16,173	302,600	3,559	66,225	116,141	4,120,112
	1874	401	*	16,357,033	12,913,666	464,957	166,912	2,148,394	17,973	293,135	3,984	69,053	118,437	3,618,436
	1875	437	*	19,249,658	15,800,144	451,139	133,610	1,958,640	18,856	352,966	4,817	98,576	117,582	3,410,517
	1876	509	*	23,301,566	19,889,651	513,840	145,609	2,391,979	21,828	461,916	5,662	134,158	116,365	3,879,537
	1877	643	6,000	27,235,162	23,865,788	546,556	176,687	2,445,507	18,581	358,853	5,055	99,485	105,510	3,551,806
	1878	733	7,078	30,039,977	26,899,148	613,642	233,253	3,439,326	22,129	447,912	6,152	132,072	130,582	4,420,580
	1879	736	7,517	31,469,103	28,419,941	635,641	233,368	3,613,266	23,883	516,937	6,130	131,541	135,034	4,761,856
	1880	849½	7,955	33,269,766	30,296,717	706,498	252,540	3,708,737	17,923	356,121	7,890	160,602	125,679	4,483,457
	1881	996	8,515	36,942,449	34,118,804	645,068	221,888	3,405,966	16,348	356,566	6,427	135,218	117,478	4,930,956
	1882	1,313	9,013	40,363,767	37,763,621	733,583	247,361	4,042,395	24,818	617,465	6,474	133,050	118,180	4,057,635
	1883	1,365	9,315	42,156,704	39,642,551	789,082	289,757	4,345,437	17,810	376,635	5,081	106,496	123,634	4,538,604

* Where asterisks occur the information has not been furnished.

† In making returns of lands sold, and amounts realised therefor, the Colonies have not adopted a uniform principle. The figures for South Australia showing the extent granted and sold in 1883, for the first time, exclude land of which the purchase was not completed. Those showing the amount realized represent the purchase money of land alienated in fee simple during that year. *See* footnotes to Table IX., *ante*.

‡ Including land under permanent artificial grass in all the Colonies except Western Australia and New Zealand. *See* footnote to Table XI., *ante*.

Summary of Australasian Statistics, from 1873 to 1883—*continued.*

Name of Colony. (Area in Square Miles.)	Year.	Agriculture.										Live Stock.			
		Other Cereals.*		Potatoes.		Hay.		Vines.		Green Forage.†	Other Tillage.‡	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.
		Acres.	Bushels.	Acres.	Tons.	Acres.	Tons.	Acres.	Wine, Gallons.	Acres.	Acres.				
Victoria - (87,884)	1873	14,951	207,020	38,349	109,822	115,672	147,398	5,222	562,713	213,069	89,474	180,342	883,763	11,323,080	160,336
	1874	17,266	333,002	35,183	124,310	119,031	157,261	4,937	577,493	254,329	102,145	180,254	958,658	11,221,036	137,941
	1875	20,146	470,304	36,901	124,377	155,274	206,613	5,081	755,000	308,405	121,609	196,184	1,054,598	11,749,522	140,765
	1876	22,388	389,134	40,450	134,082	147,408	180,560	4,765	481,588	362,554	110,271	194,768	1,128,265	11,278,893	175,578
	1877	18,361	250,859	37,107	115,419	176,951	208,151	4,419	457,535	390,330	103,205	203,150	1,169,576	10,117,867	183,391
	1878	16,932	269,252	36,527	98,958	172,799	209,028	4,434	410,333	401,427	126,299	210,105	1,184,843	9,379,276	177,373
	1879	22,698	593,361	41,600	167,943	201,451	292,407	4,284	574,143	305,790	192,020	216,710	1,129,358	8,651,775	144,733
	1880	24,947	417,299	45,951	129,262	249,656	300,581	4,980	484,028	264,611	226,025	275,516	1,286,267	10,360,285	241,936
	1881	26,909	634,321	39,129	134,290	212,150	238,796	4,923	539,191	241,947	172,502	278,195	1,286,677	10,267,265	239,926
	1882	27,969	712,751	34,267	129,605	309,382	327,385	5,732	516,763	290,438	187,451	280,874	1,287,088	10,174,246	237,917
	1883	31,703	807,820	40,195	161,088	302,957	433,143	7,326	723,560	286,866	204,921	286,779	1,297,546	10,739,021	233,525
New South Wales. (309,175)	1873	1,607	25,191	14,212	42,281	70,701	108,945	4,526	575,985	36,399	26,860	328,014	2,710,374	19,928,590	238,342
	1874	1,351	20,997	13,604	38,564	68,088	93,440	4,308	684,258	40,589	29,711	346,691	2,856,699	22,872,882	219,958
	1875	1,091	14,349	13,806	41,203	77,125	88,968	4,459	831,749	50,634	29,159	357,696	3,134,086	24,382,536	199,950
	1876	1,571	29,567	14,171	42,939	111,946	159,661	4,457	799,709	61,516	30,715	366,703	3,131,013	24,503,388	173,604
	1877	1,465	33,309	13,862	34,958	125,778	154,076	4,184	708,431	65,073	30,360	328,150	2,746,385	20,962,244	191,677
	1878	1,604	27,621	16,725	53,590	104,096	172,407	4,237	684,733	60,249	34,615	336,468	2,771,583	23,967,053	220,320
	1879	1,128	18,728	19,271	62,228	112,414	162,763	4,266	733,576	64,644	35,503	360,038	2,914,210	29,043,392	256,026
	1880	1,365	22,290	18,996	51,936	130,443	173,074	4,800	602,007	102,301	44,561	395,984	2,580,040	32,399,547	308,205
	1881	1,119	17,298	15,944	44,323	146,610	198,532	4,028	513,688	75,825	39,401	364,306	2,182,226	36,591,986	
	1882	1,232	20,447	14,462	43,461	179,567	242,921	4,448	543,596	92,606	44,435	328,026	1,859,985	31,796,308	154,815
	1883	1,425	20,353	14,954	36,977	178,504	229,242	2,660	589,604	107,994	47,263	326,964	1,646,753	34,418,488	189,050

* Including beans and pease, except in the case of New South Wales.
† Including land under permanent artificial grass in all the Colonies, except Western Australia and New Zealand. *See* footnote (†) to Table XI., *ante*.
‡ Including land in fallow in most of the Colonies. *See* footnote (‡) to Table XI., *ante*.

Summary of Australasian Statistics, from 1873 to 1883—*continued.*

Name of Colony. (Area in Square Miles.)	Year.	Population on the 31st December.*	Births.	Deaths.	Marriages.	Immigrants by Sea.	Emigrants by Sea.	Public Revenue.†		Public Expenditure.†	Public Debt on the 31st December.	Imports.	Exports.	Shipping Inwards and Outwards.	
								Total.	Proportion raised by Taxation.					Vessels.	Tons.
								£	£	£	£	£	£		
Queensland (668,224)	1873	146,690	5,720	2,250	1,354	15,141	5,474	1,120,034	546,732	956,335	4,782,850	2,885,499	3,542,513	1,151	352,524
	1874	163,517	6,383	2,794	1,340	20,951	7,713	1,160,947	552,758	1,121,710	5,249,350	2,962,439	4,106,462	1,370	572,750
	1875	181,288	6,706	4,104	1,487	24,809	9,640	1,261,464	562,227	1,404,198	6,435,250	3,328,009	3,857,576	1,699	764,182
	1876	187,100	6,903	3,467	1,394	21,831	9,695	1,263,268	568,776	1,283,520	6,435,250	3,126,559	3,875,581	1,849	874,342
	1877	203,084	7,169	3,373	1,477	22,596	10,408	1,436,582	609,861	1,382,806	7,685,350	4,068,682	4,361,275	2,104	956,844
	1878	210,510	7,397	4,220	1,444	16,139	11,890	1,559,111	694,062	1,543,820	8,935,350	3,436,077	3,190,419	2,228	1,066,758
	1879	217,851	7,870	3,207	1,604	13,828	11,150	1,461,824	631,289	1,678,631	10,192,150	3,080,889	3,434,034	2,512	1,256,394
	1880	226,077	8,196	3,017	1,547	13,396	10,349	1,612,314	600,236	1,673,695	12,192,150	3,087,296	3,448,160	2,446	1,255,576
	1881	226,968	8,220	3,320	1,703	16,223	9,209	2,023,668	657,753	1,757,654	13,245,150	4,063,625	3,540,366	2,663	1,533,808
	1882	248,255	8,518	4,274	2,034	27,000	9,957	2,102,095	806,719	1,904,201	13,125,350	6,318,463	3,534,452	2,959	1,880,591
	1883	287,475	9,890	5,041	2,392	26,685	11,959	2,583,444	929,430	2,242,971	14,907,850	6,233,351	5,276,608	1,803	882,491
South Australia (903,425)	1873	198,075	7,107	2,631	1,562	4,548	3,172	937,648	362,246	839,152	2,174,900	3,841,100	4,587,859	1,531	515,640
	1874	204,623	7,696	3,434	1,611	5,557	3,271	1,003,820	370,440	1,051,622	2,989,750	3,983,290	4,402,855	1,440	534,550
	1875	210,442	7,408	4,036	1,663	6,566	4,019	1,143,312	339,103	1,176,412	3,320,600	4,203,802	4,805,051	1,634	611,381
	1876	225,677	8,224	3,550	1,852	13,841	4,995	1,320,204	445,548	1,323,337	3,837,100	4,576,183	4,816,170	1,771	732,330
	1877	236,864	8,640	3,235	2,002	14,061	8,367	1,441,401	499,885	1,443,653	4,737,200	4,625,511	4,626,531	1,707	672,776
	1878	248,795	9,282	3,749	2,299	14,572	8,174	1,592,634	519,254	1,620,310	5,329,600	5,719,611	5,355,021	2,061	906,273
	1879	259,460	9,902	3,580	2,238	13,480	9,137	1,662,498	526,366	1,847,256	6,605,750	5,014,150	4,762,727	2,131	932,891
	1880	267,573	10,262	3,912	2,291	14,765	13,002	2,027,963	529,450	1,923,605	9,865,500	5,581,497	5,574 505	2,156	1,200,904
	1881	286,324	10,708	4,012	2,308	19,552	16,300	2,171,988	557,188	2,054,285	11,196,800	5,244,064	4,407,757	2,153	1,269,491
	1882	293,509	10,844	4,393	2,530	14,870	14,136	2,087,076	653,864	2,146,599	12,472,600	6,707,788	5,359,890	2,212	1,337,218
	1883	304,515	11,173	4,435	2,539	19,830	15,562	2,060,140	637,751	2,330,079	13,891,900	6,310,055	4,883,461	2,136	1,504,765

* For later information respecting the population of South Australia, *see* footnote (‡) to Table I., *ante*.

† The revenue and expenditure of Queensland for the seven years, 1876 to 1882, are for the 12 months ended 30th June. In other instances the information relates to the years ended 31st December.

Summary of Australasian Statistics, from 1873 to 1883—*continued.*

Name of Colony. (Area in Square Miles.)	Year.	Miles of Railway open on the 31st December.	Miles of Telegraph Line (Poles) open on the 31st December.	Crown Lands alienated to the end of each Year.†		Agriculture.								
				Total Extent granted and sold.	Total Amount realised.	Total Cultivation.‡	Wheat.		Oats.		Barley.		Maize.	
						Acres.	Acres.	Bushels.	Acres.	Bushels.	Acres.	Bushels.	Acres.	Bushels.
				Acres.	£									
Queensland (668,224)	1873	218	3,059	1,350,538	1,669,369	64,218	3,554	82,381	353	7,060	588	11,760	21,140	845,600
	1874	249	3,616	1,392,664	1,736,414	70,331	3,592	*	178	*	361	*	30,998	*
	1875	265	3,956	1,745,102	1,932,620	77,347	4,478	*	114	*	613	*	38,711	*
	1876	298	4,633	2,060,321	2,102,620	85,569	5,700	*	162	*	688	*	41,705	*
	1877	357	5,033	2,715,474	2,551,634	105,049	8,744	92,941	74	748	638	10,758	44,718	1,262,018
	1878	428	5,410	3,442,389	2,978,768	117,489	9,618	130,452	132	1,274	1,065	16,904	53,799	1,539,510
	1879	503	5,971	3,986,509	3,299,994	106,864	3,607	29,259	175	4,330	1,789	44,160	48,365	1,511,006
	1880	633	5,768	4,559,723	3,568,484	120,881	10,944	223,243	116	2,081	1,499	31,433	44,109	1,409,607
	1881	800	6,280	5,355,576	3,956,317	128,075	4,708	39,612	88	1,121	256	3,207	46,480	1,313,655
	1882	867	6,344	5,948,841	4,257,911	158,686	10,494	145,752	225	3,730	504	8,982	53,323	1,422,648
	1883	1,038	6.654	6,647,821	4,582,020	167,476	9,879	42,842	125	1,112	241	3,190	56,463	1,619,140
South Australia (903,425)	1873	202	*	5,369,634	5,878,569	1,225,073	784,784	6,178,816	2,011	21,337	11,827	126,398	—	—
	1874	234	*	5,712,773	6,084,069	1,330,484	839,638	9,862,693	2,785	40,701	13,724	208,373	—	—
	1875	274	*	6,398,823	6,374,702	1,444,586	898,820	10,739,834	3,640	60,749	13,969	197,315	—	—
	1876	328	3,470	6,839,236	9,044,824§	1,514,916	1,083,732	5,857,569	2,914	31,043	10,056	107,023	—	—
	1877	328	4,061	7,477,911	9,904,007	1,828,115	1,163,646	9,034,692	3,515	42,039	11,991	143,586	—	—
	1878	454	4,217	8,068,082	10,859,785	2,011,319	1,305,851	9,332,049	2,931	35,202	12,089	142,933	—	—
	1879	559	4,393	8,477,812	11,444,581	2,271,058	1,458,096	14,260,964	4,117	61,818	15,107	202,166	—	—
	1880	667	4,754	8,942,427	12,029,626	2,574,489	1,733,542	8,606,510	4,355	50,070	13,074	151,886	—	—
	1881	832	4,946	9,582,903	12,814,212	2,613,903	1,768,781	8,087,032	3,023	32,219	11,953	137,165	—	—
	1882	945	5,093	9,972,473	13,264,932	2,370,980	1,746,531	7,356,117	3,457	38,472	12,186	134,464	—	—
	1883	988	5,278	6,494,067†	8,391,733†	2,754,560	1,846,151	14,649,230	5,491	80,467	13,475	188,806	—	—

* Where asterisks occur the information has not been furnished.

† In making returns of lands sold, and amounts realised therefor, the Colonies have not adopted a uniform principle. The figures for South Australia showing the extent granted and sold in 1883, for the first time, exclude land of which the purchase was not completed. Those showing the amount realised represent the purchase money of land alienated in fee simple during that year. *See* footnotes to Table IX., *ante*.

‡ Including land under permanent artificial grass in all the Colonies, except Western Australia and New Zealand. *See* footnote (†) to Table XI., *ante*.

§ The figures for South Australia from 1876 to 1882 include the balance due for lands sold on credit. The figures of the years prior to 1876 do not express the full amount for which such lands were parted with. *See* footnote †, *ante*.

Summary of Australasian Statistics, from 1873 to 1883.

Name of Colony. (Area in Square Miles.)	Year.	Agriculture.										Live Stock.			
		Other Cereals.†		Potatoes.		Hay.		Vines.		Green Forage.‡	Other Tillage.§	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.
		Acres.	Bushels.	Acres.	Tons.	Acres.	Tons.	Acres.	Wine, Gallons.	Acres.	Acres.				
Queensland (668,224)	1873	178	3,560	3,069	6,138	5,772	11,544	364	41,479	1,894	27,306	99,243	1,343,093	7,268,946	42,884
	1874	387	*	3,316	*	5,554	*	413	70,425	3,359	22,173	107,507	1,610,105	7,180,792	44,517
	1875	251	*	3,056	*	8,531	*	376	77,404	2,863	18,354	121,497	1,812,576	7,227,774	46,447
	1876	270	*	3,928	*	9,423	*	523	93,841	4,821	18,349	133,625	2,079,979	7,315,074	53,455
	1877	419	*	4,603	8,778	9,914	12,919	655	87,051	10,771	24,513	140,174	2,299,582	6,272,766	52,371
	1878	548	*	3,882	9,063	13,904	18,553	605	64,407	6,875	27,061	148,226	2,469,555	5,631,634	50,301
	1879	259	*	4,761	14,404	11,645	22,854	743	104,674	7,585	27,935	163,342	2,805,984	6,083,034	64,686
	1880	313	*	6,111	16,177	12,021	23,440	739	85,455	10,815	34,214	179,152	3,162,752	6,935,967	66,248
	1881	272	*	5,086	11,984	16,926	19,640	890	72,121	11,634	41,735	194,217	3,618,513	8,292,883	56,438
	1882	300	*	5,133	14,861	22,001	36,690	1,092	88,476	10,561	55,053	229,124	4,089,715	12,043,893	50,097
	1883	—	—	5,468	14,236	17,727	24,627	1,198	119,295	13,233	63,142	236,154	4,246,141	11,507,475	51,009
South Australia (903,425)	1873	—	—	3,813	13,014	142,167	145,389	5,217	733,478	27,469	247,785	87,455	174,381	5,617,419	87,336
	1874	—	—	4,582	17,046	160,931	202,934	5,051	648,186	27,076	276,697	93,122	185,342	6,120,211	78,019
	1875	4,854	78,050	5,941	26,833	161,429	194,794	4,972	727,979	37,261	313,700	107,164	219,240	6,179,395	100,562
	1876	4,490	46,353	5,091	14,463	91,937	178,866	4,554	493,217	35,268	276,874	106,903	219,441	6,133,291	102,295
	1877	3,832	46,278	5,367	13,452	223,905	253,374	4,164	339,277	36,265	375,430	110,684	230,679	6,098,359	104,527
	1878	4,233	48,191	5,393	14,378	218,359	210,974	4,297	458,303	30,033	428,128	121,553	251,802	6,377,812	103,422
	1879	3,963	58,547	7,320	27,832	265,463	296,437	4,117	459,468	33,996	478,879	130,052	266,217	6,140,396	90,548
	1880	4,406	58,963	5,587	16,170	272,567	261,371	4,337	500,955	35,763	500,858	157,915	307,177	6,463,897	131,011
	1881	4,616	57,627	6,136	18,154	333,467	240,827	4,202	313,060	28,891	452,834	159,678	314,918	6,810,856	120,718
	1882	3,688	42,668	5,288	16,133	138,843	104,370	4,312	347,340	21,747	434,928	162,400	306,046	6,388,366	100,075
	1883	3,590	52,816	6,063	25,557	366,934	388,719	4,280	358,606	33,172	475,404	164,360	319,620	6,677,067	108,714

* Where asterisks occur the information has not been furnished.
† Including beans and pease.
‡ Including land under permanent artificial grass in all the Colonies, except Western Australia and New Zealand. *See* footnote (†) to Table XI., *post*.
§ Including land in fallow in most of the Colonies. *See* footnote (‡) to Table XI., *post*.

Summary of Australasian Statistics, from 1873 to 1883—*continued.*

Name of Colony. (Area in Square Miles.)	Year.	Population on the 31st December.	Births.	Deaths.	Marriages.	Immigrants by Sea.	Emigrants by Sea.	Public Revenue.		Public Expenditure.†	Public Debt on the 31st December.	Imports.	Exports.	Shipping Inwards and Outwards.	
								Total.	Proportion raised by Taxation.					Vessels.	Tons.
								£	£	£	£	£	£		
Western Australia (975,920)	1873	25,761	809	418	161	285	639	134,832	71,625	114,270	35,000	297,328	265,217	287	140,237
	1874	26,209	876	487	181	660	601	148,073	82,275	143,266	119,000	364,263	428,837	297	132,827
	1875	26,709	760	473	192	733	520	157,775	80,645	169,230	135,000	349,840	391,217	305	134,161
	1876	27,321	918	383	191	409	650	162,189	85,177	179,484	135,000	386,037	397,293	330	154,126
	1877	27,838	912	433	176	613	575	165,413	81,286	182,959	161,000	362,707	373,352	290	151,133
	1878	28,166	871	394	182	322	471	163,344	75,849	198,243	184,556	379,050	428,491	316	162,753
	1879	28,668	977	411	215	214	278	196,315	88,329	195,812	361,000	407,299	494,884	324	170,037
	1880	29,019	933	382	214	577	777	180,050	101,257	204,338	361,000	353,669	499,183	333	250,429
	1881	30,013	1,005	412	197	757	690	254,313	109,199	197,386	511,000	404,831	502,770	368	285,046
	1882	30,766	1,089	430	215	932	838	250,372	134,658	205,451	511,000	508,755	583,056	403	344,247
	1883	31,700	1,058	560	217	1,507	1,071	316,719	126,131	240,566	611,000	516,847	447,010	431	389,102
Tasmania - - (26,375)	1873	104,217	3,048	1,504	659	6,787	7,039	324,257	192,229	303,947	1,477,600	1,107,167	893,556	1,342	238,112
	1874	104,176	3,097	1,689	712	6,265	7,714	333,732	207,311	325,195	1,476,700	1,257,785	925,325	1,227	239,507
	1875	103,663	3,105	2,078	689	6,535	8,075	342,606	207,851	388,090	1,489,400	1,185,942	1,085,976	1,295	262,209
	1876	105,484	3,149	1,730	746	8,571	8,169	327,017	210,611	341,889	1,520,500	1,133,003	1,130,983	1,255	277,484
	1877	107,104	3,211	2,038	828	9,717	9,270	366,118	230,652	352,461	1,589,705	1,308,671	1,416,975	1,358	319,517
	1878	109,947	3,502	1,700	864	9,568	8,483	385,936	241,732	379,232	1,747,400	1,324,812	1,315,695	1,381	315,854
	1879	112,469	3,564	1,688	804	10,578	9,932	375,570	232,360	481,216	1,786,800	1,267,475	1,301,097	1,428	381,895
	1880	114,762	3,739	1,832	839	10,411	10,025	442,158	300,241	415,196	1,943,700	1,369,223	1,511,931	1,309	413,303
	1881	118,923	3,918	1,733	856	12,579	11,163	505,006	344,723	463,684	2,003,000	1,431,144	1,555,576	1,383	383,762
	1882	122,479	4,043	1,906	969	12,822	11,403	551,213	370,856	502,771	2,050,600	1,670,872	1,587,389	1,451	417,418
	1883	126,220	4,259	2,122	1,120	14,240	12,636	562,189	388,406	533,036	2,385,600	1,832,637	1,731,599	1,305	471,722

Summary of Australasian Statistics, from 1873 to 1883—*continued.*

Name of Colony. (Area in Square Miles.)	Year.	Miles of Railway open on the 31st December.	Miles of Telegraph Line (Poles) open on the 31st December.	Crown Lands alienated to the end of each Year.		AGRICULTURE.								
				Total Extent granted and sold.	Total Amount realised.	Total Cultivation.†	Wheat.		Oats.		Barley.		Maize.	
						Acres.	Acres.	Bushels.	Acres.	Bushels.	Acres.	Bushels.	Acres.	Bushels.
				Acres.	£									
Western Australia (975,920)	1873	30	750	*	*	51,724	25,697	345,368	1,474	28,330	5,083	87,529	113	2,110
	1874	38	763	*	*	45,292	23,427	281,124	1,067	17,072	4,702	75,232	88	1,320
	1875	38	766	*	*	47,571	21,561	237,171	1,256	18,840	5,014	70,196	60	1,200
	1876	38	1,159	*	*	45,933	18,769	225,168	1,461	21,915	6,245	93,675	70	1,470
	1877	68	1,567	*	*	50,591	22,834	251,174	1,290	18,060	5,948	77,324	46	920
	1878	68	1,569	1,656,958	*	51,065	23,008	229,342	1,568	28,249	5,927	72,498	40	296
	1879	72	1,569	1,679,311	*	65,492	25,762	384,813	1,734	32,946	7,238	130,284	35	490
	1880	72	1,555	1,693,121	*	63,903	27,687	413,644	1,320	25,080	6,364	114,552	32	448
	1881	92	1,585	1,712,363	*	53,353	21,951	153,657	827	8,270	3,679	36,790	36	432
	1882	95	1,585	1,688,978	*	56,691	22,718	249,898	1,025	15,375	4,766	66,724	25	*
	1883	115	1,585	1,719,500	*	61,449	28,768	373,984	1,395	23,715	5,547	88,768	28	812
Tasmania - - (26,375)	1873	45	291	3,905,485	1,507,652	167,931	58,610	947,813	26,750	561,247	6,440	124,459	—	—
	1874	45	291	3,982,003	1,593,401	326,486	57,633	1,066,861	32,704	877,243	5,129	125,469	—	—
	1875	150	396	4,024,808	1,640,396	332,824	42,745	700,092	32,556	827,043	5,939	165,357	—	—
	1876	172	635	4,051,815	1,676,886	332,558	38,977	752,070	23,609	571,485	6,258	147,537	—	—
	1877	172	754	4,091,651	1,736,221	348,841	46,719	846,420	21,883	488,350	4,283	86,840	—	—
	1878	172	825	4,138,945	1,810,969	355,403	48,392	778,977	28,802	714,987	4,040	97,845	—	—
	1879	172	864	4,193,445	1,887,202	366,407	45,215	1,049,778	37,216	1,064,966	6,491	181,178	—	—
	1880	172	878	4,232,870	1,942,581	373,299	50,022	750,040	19,853	439,446	8,297	169,156	—	—
	1881	172	928	4,265,944	1,993,646	374,374	51,757	977,365	27,535	783,129	4,597	102,475	—	—
	1882	167	1,228	4,293,635	2,038,351	377,486	46,721	946,889	28,849	788,713	3,229	89,739	—	—
	1883	167	1,273	4,302,757	*	393,993	41,301	732,718	23,160	634,354	3,205	81,962	—	—

* Where asterisks occur the information has not been furnished.

† Including land under permanent artificial grass in all the Colonies, except Western Australia and New Zealand. *See* footnote (†) to Table XI., *post.*

Summary of Australasian Statistics, from 1873 to 1883—*continued.*

Name of Colony. (Area in Square Miles.)	Year.	Agriculture.										Live Stock.			
		Other Cereals.†		Potatoes.		Hay.		Vines.		Green Forage.‡	Other Tillage.§	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.
		Acres.	Bushels.	Acres.	Tons.	Acres.	Tons.	Acres.	Wine, Gallons.	Acres.	Acres.				
Western Australia (975,920)	1873	1,475	18,243	473	1,263	15,941	31,882	775	*	—	693	26,290	47,640	748,536	20,948
	1874	1,022	10,220	329	987	13,366	20,049	779	*	—	512	26,636	46,748	777,861	13,290
	1875	1,293	8,880	393	1,179	17,319	17,319	675	*	—	—	29,379	50,416	881,861	14,420
	1876	1,378	8,041	370	1,110	16,856	16,856	784	*	—	—	33,502	54,058	899,494	18,108
	1877	799	8,789	354	708	18,013	18,013	713	*	—	594	30,691	52,057	797,156	18,942
	1878	817	8,919	341	850	18,750	18,750	614	*	—	—	32,801	56,158	869,325	16,762
	1879	890	11,888	362	1,269	19,085	23,856	718	*	—	9,668	32,411	60,617	1,109,860	20,397
	1880	864	11,556	471	1,649	19,563	24,454	660	*	—	6,942	34,568	63,719	1,231,717	24,232
	1881	640	5,120	278	556	24,445	18,334	527	*	—	970	31,755	63,009	1,267,912	22,530
	1882	585	5,265	267	667	25,959	25,959	607	*	—	739	31,325	65,473	1,259,797	16,898
	1883	530	5,830	310	930	20,295	20,295	725	*	—	3,851	32,884	64,558	1,315,155	18,512
Tasmania (26,375)	1873	—	—	7,910	24,970	26,406	28,430	—	—	1,565	40,250	22,612	106,308	1,490,746	59,628
	1874	5,714	112,342	6,978	26,169	30,486	41,144	—	—	94,234	93,608	23,208	110,450	1,724,953	51,468
	1875	6,585	137,050	6,906	24,455	34,758	49,217	—	—	103,167	100,168	23,473	118,694	1,731,723	47,664
	1876	7,263	130,832	7,954	27,290	29,664	35,907	—	—	114,978	103,855	23,622	124,459	1,768,785	60,681
	1877	5,854	90,104	8,336	27,106	29,440	33,331	—	—	120,376	111,950	22,195	126,882	1,818,125	55,652
	1878	5,099	92,403	8,079	27,257	33,933	40,499	—	—	118,478	108,580	24,107	126,276	1,838,831	39,595
	1879	6,313	141,063	9,743	30,956	35,538	54,008	—	—	118,690	107,201	24,593	129,317	1,835,970	38,610
	1880	6,432	106,396	10,421	32,548	31,615	35,883	—	—	134,656	112,003	25,267	127,187	1,783,611	48,029
	1881	5,906	113,862	9,670	33,565	34,790	44,957	—	—	137,681	102,438	27,805	130,526	1,847,479	49,660
	1882	5,301	108,608	9,681	37,526	38,043	49,513	—	—	149,571	96,091	25,857	122,504	1,845,455	47,827
	1883	6,103	115,238	9,601	34,509	41,414	53,421	—	—	153,382	115,827	26,840	130,525	1,831,069	55,774

* Where asterisks occur the information has not been furnished..
† Including beans and pease.
‡ Including land under permanent artificial grass, in all the Colonies, except Western Australia and New Zealand. *See* footnote (†) to Table XI., *post.*
§ Including land in fallow in most of the Colonies. *See* footnote (‡) to Table XI., *post.*

Summary of Australasian Statistics, from 1873 to 1883—*continued.*

Name of Colony. (Area in Square Miles.)	Year.	Population on the 31st. December.	Births.	Deaths.	Marriages.	Immigrants by sea.	Emigrants by sea.	Public Revenue.		Public Expenditure.†	Public Debt on the 31st December.*	Imports.	Exports.	Shipping Inwards and Outwards.	
								Total.	Proportion raised by Taxation.					Vessels.	Tons.
								£	£	£	£	£	£		
New Zealand (104,027)	1873	295,946	11,222	3,647	2,276	13,572	4,761	2,776,388	1,055,296	2,119,524	10,913,936	6,464,687	5,610,371	1,443	571,144
	1874	341,860	12,844	4,161	2,828	43,965	5,859	3,063,811	1,294,276	3,035,711	13,366,936	8,121,812	5,251,269	1,678	784,829
	1875	375,856	14,438	5,712	3,209	31,737	6,467	2,813,928	1,350,296	3,431,973	17,400,031	8,029,172	5,828,627	1,866	834,547
	1876	399,075	16,168	4,904	3,196	18,414	6,459	3,580,294	1,350,025	4,305,337	18,678,111	6,905,171	5,673,465	1,744	786,514
	1877	417,622	16,856	4,685	3,115	12,987	6,611	3,916,023	1,343,945	3,822,426	20,691,111	6,973,418	6,327,472	1,660	789,177
	1878	432,519	17,770	4,642	3,385	16,263	5,761	4,167,889	1,533,393	4,365,275	22,608,311	8,755,663	6,015,525	1,812	884,983
	1879	463,729	18,070	5,583	3,404	23,957	5,234	3,134,905	1,441,838	3,845,036	23,958,311	8,374,585	5,743,126	1,802	949,692
	1880	484,864	19,341	5,437	3,181	15,154	7,923	3,283,396	1,535,700	4,019,850	28,583,231	6,162,011	6,352,692	1,516	819,716
	1881	500,910	18,732	5,491	3,281	9,688	8,072	3,757,493	1,881,024	3,675,797	29,659,111	7,457,045	6,060,866	1,527	833,621
	1882	517,707	19,009	5,701	3,602	10,945	7,456	3,917,160	1,999,000	3,824,735	30,235,711	8,609,270	6,658,008	1,564	899,836
	1883	540,877	19,202	6,061	3,612	19,215	9,186	3,871,267	2,080,084	3,924,005	31,385,411	7,974,038	7,095,999	1,656	1,002,491

* For information respecting the "Accrued Sinking Fund" of New Zealand, *see* footnote (§) to Table V., *ante.*

Summary of Australasian Statistics, from 1873 to 1883—*continued.*

Name of Colony (Area in Square Miles.)	Year.	Miles of Railway open on the 31st December.	Miles of Telegraph Line (Poles) open on the 31st December.	Crown Lands alienated to the end of each Year.		Agriculture.								
				Total Extent granted and sold.	Total Amount realised.	Total Cultivation.†	Wheat.		Oats.		Barley.		Maize.	
				Acres.	£	Acres.	Acres.	Bushels.	Acres.	Bushels.	Acres.	Bushels.	Acres.	Bushels.
New Zealand (104,027)	1873	145	2,389	*	*	376,156	132,428	3,391,634	110,472	3,292,807	22,124	606,492	1,253	18,795
	1874	209	2,632	12,662,625	*	549,844	105,674	2,974,339	157,545	5,548,729	16,236	477,162	—	—
	1875	542	3,156	13,116,405	7,347,395	607,138	90,804	2,863,619	168,252	6,357,431	27,656	993,219	—	—
	1876	718	3,170	13,644,966	8,194,026	787,824	141,614	4,054,377	150,717	4,707,836	27,679	801,379	—	—
	1877	954	3,307	14,494,223	9,510,623	959,528	243,406	6,336,369	190,344	6,029,962	22,713	576,823	—	—
	1878	1,070	3,434	15,241,639	11,100,236	1,134,185	264,577	6,070,599	277,547	8,357,150	28,646	709,465	—	—
	1879	1,171	3,605	15,321,215	11,260,829	1,237,501	270,198	7,610,012	330,208	12,062,607	57,484	1,751,432	—	—
	1880	1,258	3,706	15,417,727	11,524,867	1,029,764	324,933	8,147,705	215,007	6,891,251	46,877	1,221,241	2,321	*
	1881	1,287	3,824	16,949,045	11,890,403	1,319,460	365,715	8,297,890	243,387	6,924,848	29,808	664,093	—	—
	1882	1,465	4,011	17,237,143	12,109,607	1,389,747‡	390,818	10,270,591	319,858	10,520,428	28,146	737,163	—	—
	1883	1,480	4,074	17,430,021	12,297,319	1,412,300	377,706	9,827,136	262,954	9,231,339	32,907	964,456	4,435	*

* Where asterisks occur the information has not been furnished.
† *See* footnote (**) to Table XI., *ante*.
‡ In the New Zealand returns the land under permanent artificial grass, which in other Colonies is classed with green forage, is not considered as under cultivation. *See* footnote (**) to Table XI., *ante*.

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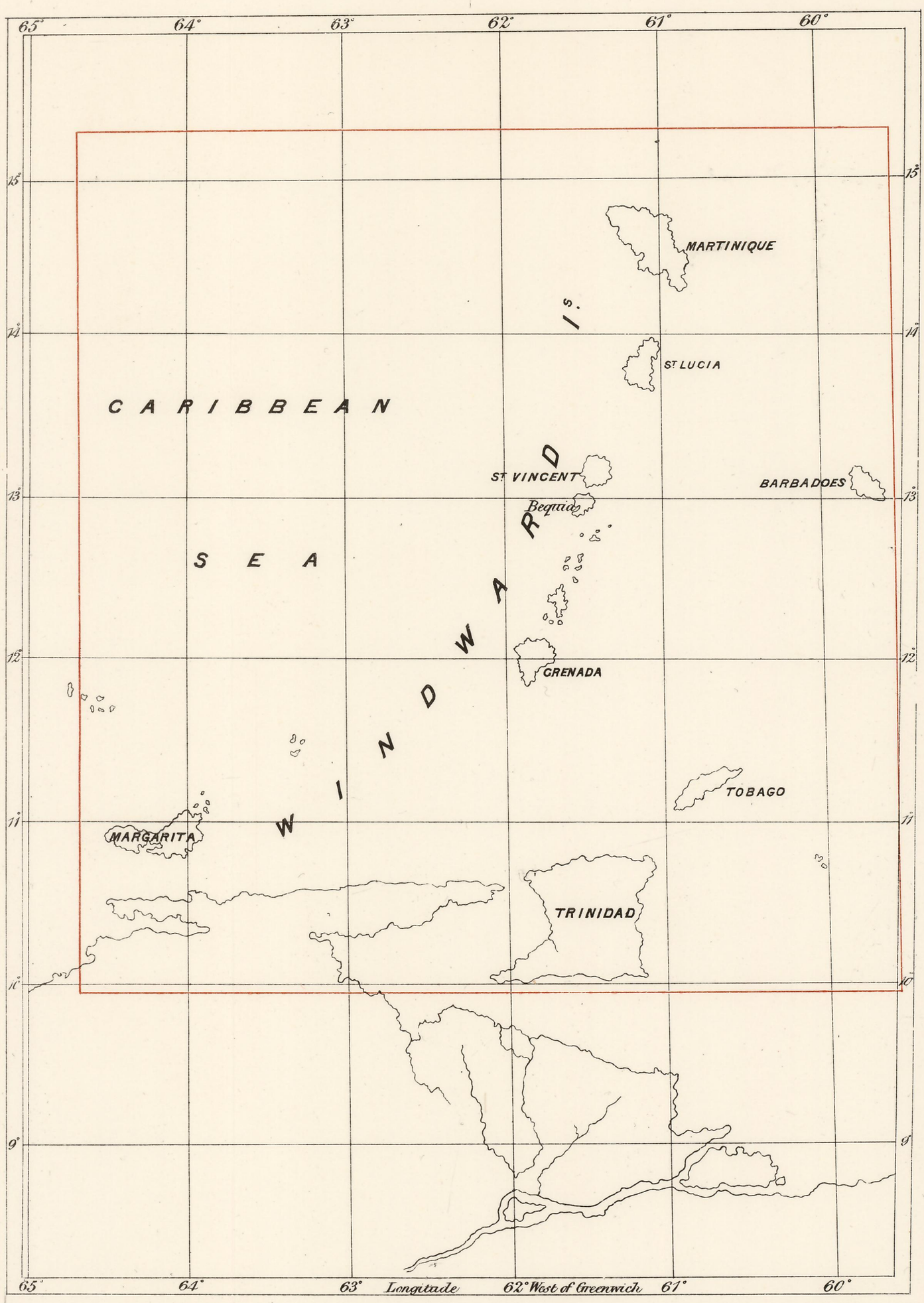
Summary of Australasian Statistics, from 1873 to 1883—*continued.*

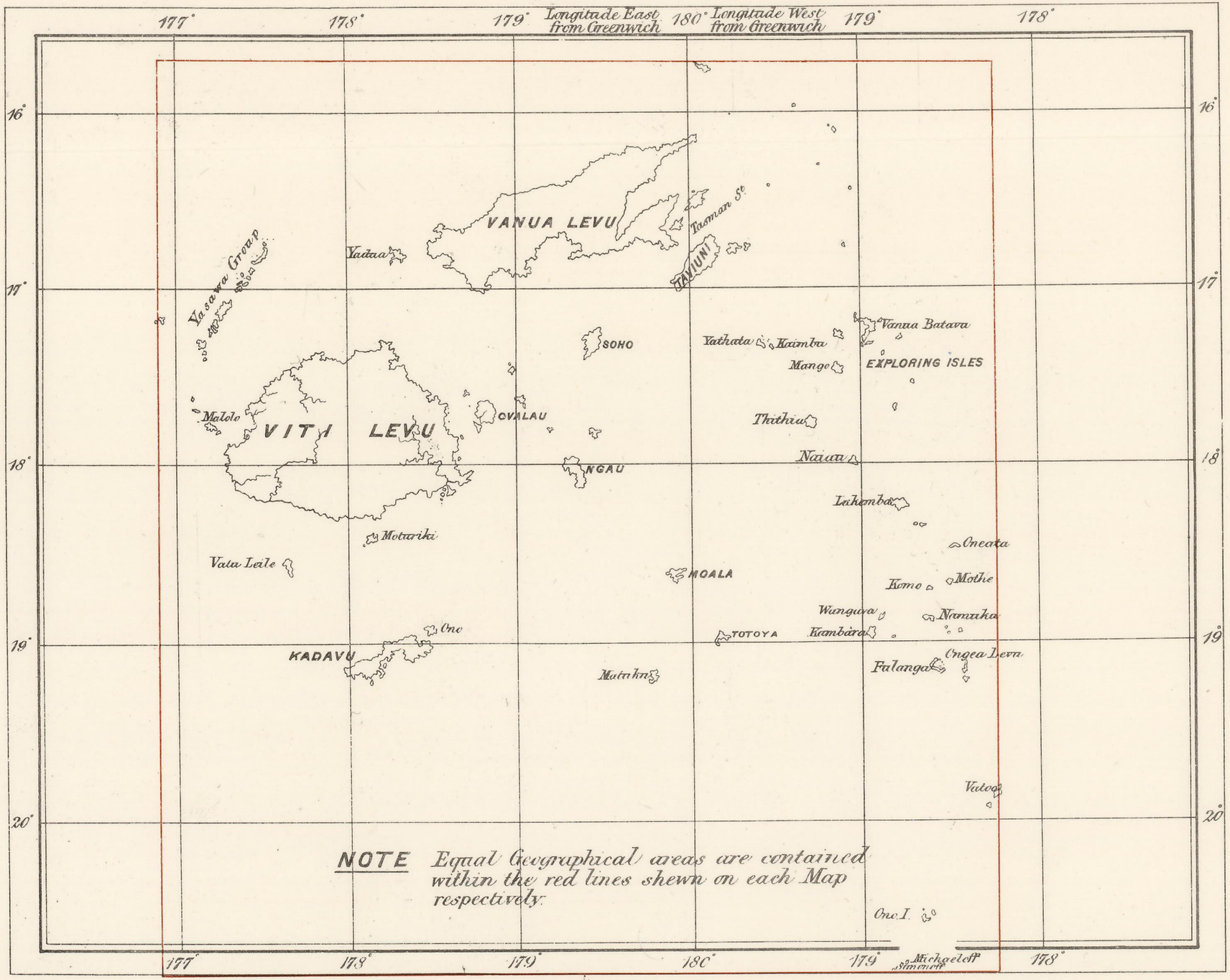
Name of Colony. (Area in Square Miles.)	Year.	AGRICULTURE.										LIVE STOCK.			
		Other Cereals.†		Potatoes.		Hay.		Vines.		Green Forage.‡	Other Tillage.§	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.
		Acres.	Bushels.	Acres.	Tons.	Acres.	Tons	Acres.	Wine, Gallons.	Acres.	Acres.				
New Zealand (104,027)	1873	5,000	75,000	11,617	51,758	43,616	62,187	—	—	25,515	24,131	*	*	*	*
	1874	—	—	12,154	63,685	62,216	52,202	—	—	—	196,019	99,859	494,917	11,704,853	123,921
	1875	—	—	14,655	71,599	49,537	72,184	—	—	30,883	225,351	*	*	*	*
	1876	—	—	16,204	86,922	49,760	65,060	—	—	32,459	369,391	*	*	*	*
	1877	—	—	17,564	94,478	45,090	58,671	—	—	—	440,411	*	*	*	*
	1878	—	—	17,299	86,186	53,022	64,520	—	—	49,187	443,907	137,768	578,430	13,069,338	207,337
	1879	—	—	21,260	119,523	71,911	108,833	—	—	48,584	437,856	*	*	*	*
	1880	—	—	22,530	111,329	54,028	68,710	—	—	51,154	312,914	161,736	698,637	12,985,085	200,083
	1881	—	—	22,540	121,890	68,423	89,081	—	—	61,431	528,156	*	*	*	*
	1882	—	—	20,488	104,581	61,054	75,764	—	—	65,466	503,917	*	*	*	*
	1883	—	—	21,102	113,198	73,997	102,649	—	—	83,020	556,179	*	*	13,384,075	*

* Where asterisks occur the information has not been furnished.
† Including beans and pease.
‡ *See* footnote (**) to Table XI., *ante*.
§ Including land in fallow in most of the Colonies. *See* footnotes (‡) to Table XI., *post*.



NOTE *Equal Geographical areas are contained within the red lines shewn on each Map respectively.*

DANGERFIELD LITH. 22. BEDFORD ST. COVENT GARDEN.



DANGERFIELD. LITH 22 BEDFORD ST COVENT GARDEN 1892.

FIJI.

No. 5.

Governor Sir G. W. DES VŒUX, K.C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY, K.G.

Government House, Suva, Fiji,
August 26, 1884.

MY LORD,

IN order to conduce to a more vivid idea of the difficulties of this Government in respect of staff, means of communication, &c., I have the honour to forward to your Lordship two maps, one of Fiji and the other of an equal and better known area of sea and land in the West Indies.

Your Lordship will observe that the latter contains besides a considerable portion of Venezuela, the English Colonies of Trinidad, Tobago, Grenada, St. Vincent, St. Lucia, and Barbados, and also the French Colony of Martinique; while, on the other hand, the former does not include the whole of the present Colony of Fiji.

If the size of the map of Fiji were enlarged so as to take in the island of Rotumah which is now part of the Colony, the area thus represented would be equal to one in the Caribbean Sea, containing not only all the land above mentioned, but nearly the whole of the Leeward Islands in addition, including the French Colony of Guadaloupe and the Danish Colony of Santa Cruz.

The population of Fiji, which is now, including Indian coolies, about 130,000, is sparsely but evenly distributed over the whole of the land represented, there being inhabitants in all the islands which appear upon the map and upon many others which are not named; while the island of Rotumah, which does not appear, and is some 200 miles to the north of the Yasawas, has an entirely alien population of about 2,450.

Your Lordship will observe from this that the carriage of natives from island to island for the purpose of labour engagements is not a mere internal migration of the ordinary kind, but in almost all respects bears a close analogy to emigration, and requires to be regulated accordingly.

I may mention that the island of Viti Levu, in the Fiji group, is almost exactly of the same size as Jamaica, while the remaining islands slightly exceed in area the whole of the other British West Indian Islands proper (that is, incluisve of Trinidad but exclusive of the Bahamas).

FIJI.

Your Lordship may probably deem these maps as sufficiently useful to warrant their publication in the annual blue book, containing information upon Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. WILLIAM DES VŒUX,
Governor.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Derby, K.G.
&c. &c.

P.S.—In justice to the Colonial Secretary, Mr. Thurston, I desire to add that these maps were prepared at his suggestion.

(Stgned) G. WILLIAM DES VŒUX.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

No. 6.

Governor KERR to the Right Hon. the EARL of DERBY.

Government House, Stanley, Falkland Islands,
August 14, 1884.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith two copies of the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1883 with the following report thereon.

Taxes and Duties.

Customs duties are levied only on liquors and tobacco imported into the Colony. The other taxes are on publicans and wholesale liquor licenses, auctioneers' licenses, licenses to keep dogs in Stanley, duties on the sale of goods by auction, and a tax on lands and tenements, which came into operation on the 1st of January 1883, and the duration of which is limited to 10 years.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The local revenue of 1883 was 7,337*l.* 0*s.* 8¼*d.*, or 575*l.* 19*s.* 3¾*d.* less than the estimated amount, which was 7,913*l.* The deficiency was chiefly in the customs receipts, the falling off in which was 360*l.* 0*s.* 11*d.* The other heads which fell below the estimate were licenses, fees and fines, postage, auction duties, and sale of Crown lands.

1,000*l.* was received from the Imperial Government in aid of the mail service, which brought up the total receipts for the year to 8,337*l.* 0*s.* 8¼*d.*

As compared with 1882, there was a net increase of revenue amounting to 655*l.* 10*s.* 2¾*d.* The increase is due to the operation of the land tax, which yielded 1,518*l.* 11*s.* 11*d.* This increase would have been greater but for the falling off in the customs duties, licenses, land sales, and rent of Crown lands, the sum collected for rent in 1882 having been increased beyond the actual sum due for the year by considerable payment of arrears.

The expenditure for 1883 was 8,728*l.* 17*s.* 10¾*d.*, being 832*l.* 17*s.* 10¾*d.* more than the amount estimated, which was 7,896*l.* Of this excess 436*l.* 8*s.* 8¾*d.* was caused by additions and repairs to Government House, the actual cost of which exceeded the amount sanctioned for that purpose; the sum placed on the estimate for public works having been 950*l.*, whilst the actual expenditure under that head was 1,386*l.* 8*s.* 8¾*d.* Besides public works there was an unestimated expenditure of 150*l.* for services of Commissioner of Accounts, 38*l.* passage of Medical Officer, 38*l.* quarantine expenses, 12*l.* telegram, 32*l.* drawback of duties, 17*l.* loss by defalcations of late treasurer, 87*l.* 10*s.* expense of sending convicts to Malta, and 22*l.* 10*s.* medicines for Colonial Surgeon.

As compared with 1882, there was a net increased expenditure amounting to 1,163*l.* 14*s.* 7¾*d.*; this arose from an increase in the cost of the civil establishments, in public works, in expenses on account of convicts, and in office contingencies by the importation of a printing press and type, and other minor expenses.

The expenditure of 1883 exceeded the revenue for the year by 391*l.* 17*s.* 2½*d.*, the excess being defrayed from the balance remaining to the credit of the Colony at the end of 1882.

There is no Public Debt.

Public Works.

The principal public works executed in 1883 were additions and repairs to Government House, strengthening and securing the new jetty at the dockyard, fencing the reserve at Navy Point, and repairing the sea wall and the roads and drains in Stanley.

The addition to Government House, consisting of two bedrooms and an office, was sanctioned in 1881; but from the unsettled state of the finances of the Colony consequent on the defalcations of the treasurer, it was not undertaken until 1883.

It was then found that the original building required extensive repairs. The walls were so damp from the infiltration of rain water that the wall paper was destroyed and water was oozing from the inner surfaces, and the woodwork also in many places had rotted.

The necessary repairs, including the partial cementing of the outside, occasioned a large and unforseen expenditure under the head of public works.

Legislation.

Only one Ordinance passed the Legislative Council in 1883. It was entitled "An Ordinance to amend the Customs Duties "Consolidation Ordinance, 1882."

The object of this amendment was to provide for the imposition of an uniform rate of duty on the different kinds of manufactured tobacco as in the Imperial Customs Tariff.

Civil Establishment.

Mr. Henry B. L. Jameson, who had been appointed to the office of Government Clerk on the 24th November 1882, arrived in the

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

Colony and commenced his duties on the 1st February 1883. Mr. A. T. Anderson was appointed Assistant Colonial Surgeon for the West Falkland district on the 9th of March and arrived in the Colony on the 3rd of June.

Mr. H. F. Blissett, C. M. G., the Commissioner for Accounts, having finished his investigation, left the Colony on the 13th of March on his return to England.

Mr. Arthur Bailey, Police Magistrate, Coroner, Registrar and Receiver of Wrecks, died on the 18th of September, and Mr. C. de Freville Green, Colonial Secretary and Treasurer, was appointed to discharge temporarily the duties of the offices left vacant by the death of Mr. Bailey, in addition to his own.

Mr. Bailey was formerly Surveyor-neral, and on the abolition of that office in 1873 he was granted a pension of 266*l.* 13*s.* 4*d* a year, which he continued to receive in addition to the pay and emoluments of his other offices.

Mr. C. de Freville Green, Colonial-Secretary and Treasurer, and holding also the offices of Postmaster, Collector of Customs, Shipping Master, Harbour Master, and Registrar of the Courts, died on the 25th of October, and during the remainder of the year the duties of his several offices were discharged by the Governor, with the assistance of the Government clerk.

The duties of the offices which became vacant by the death of Mr. Bailey, and which were afterwards performed by Mr. Green, were, after his death, discharged as follows:—

Dr. Hamilton, the Colonial Surgeon, was appointed Acting Police Magistrate and Coroner, and the Rev. L. S. Brandon, Colonial Chaplain, was appointed acting Registrar.

Mr. Brandon was also appointed a member of the Executive Council.

In consequence of the increased attendance at the Government schools it became necessary to appoint assistant teachers and on the 15th of January Agnes Turner was appointed provisionally and temporarily to be a teacher in the senior school, and Elizabeth Elmer to be a teacher in the infant school, the salaries in both cases being at the rate of 24*l.* a year. This expense was met by the school fees which were paid into the Treasury.

On the 1st of June Ellen Biggs was appointed a teacher in the place of Agnes Turner, who left the Colony.

Pensions.

By the death of Mr. Arthur Bailey the pension list was reduced from 635*l.* 16*s.* 8*d.* to 369*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.* a year.

Population.

There were 47 births in the Colony in 1883—25 males and 22 females. The deaths registered were 23, of which number 13 were males and 10 females.

The causes of death were as follows:—

Accidental death by drowning - - -	3
Infants from debility on inherent disease - -	5
Senile decay - - - - -	1
Apoplexy - - - - -	2
Meningitis - - - - -	1
Peritonitis - - - - -	2
Gastritis - - - - - -	2
Bronchitis - - - - -	1
Gastric fever - - - - -	2
Heart disease - - - - -	1
Cancer - - - - - -	1
Cirrosed liver - - - - -	1
Erysipelas - - - - -	1
Total Deaths -	23

The public health was not as good in 1883 as it usually is. There were several cases of fever, a disease which seldom occurs in this Colony, and there were several cases reported of a type of scarlatina, none of which, however, were fatal.

The following report on the sanitary condition of the Colony has been furnished by the Colonial Surgeon:—

From the COLONIAL SURGEON to the COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Stanley, Falkland Islands,
July 1st, 1884.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, on the sanitary condition of the settlement of Stanley for the year 1883.

It is satisfactory to state that we have enjoyed considerable immunity from epidemic disease and also endemic. One reason I advance for the latter are the strong westerly winds which carry away the germs of infection and prevent their being sown on a congenial soil. I regret to say that I cannot speak in favour of our arterial arrangements in connexion with the sewerage, but a step has recently been taken in the right direction by his Excellency the Governor in opening many sewers which were formerly choked by poisonous gases and surrounded by the stench of sickly odours and rank corruption, and a pestiferous smell emanating from them, and no doubt a strong tendency to disease was disseminated.

With regard to epidemic diseases, it is my pleasing duty to say that we are almost exempt from them, only one case of variola having been imported by the Kosmos steamers from Punta Arenas, but the precautions wisely adopted by the Executive had the desired effect in stamping out this terrible malady, which, if sown on this Island, would in all probability have decimated our population to a fearful extent on account of our limited means to grapple with such a deadly disease, and the utter neglect of hygienic rules, there being no hospital or sanatorium on the Island. There has been several cases of enteric or typhoid fever, also

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scarlet fever of a low type (Anginosa), many cases of varicella, and the ordinary febrile diseases. There is one matter I would wish to draw his Excellency's attention to, and that is the scarcity of phthisis or tubercular consumption, although tubercle exists to a very large extent amongst many people, being hereditary with them, but the climate and food appear to have a prophylactic effect and banish the insiduous attacks of phthisis and the other concomitants peculiar to the depositions of tubercle. The concentrated form of oxygen known as ozone is found in abundance, and also large quantities of iodine set free from the kelp, and the highly nitrogenized food of the people, beef and mutton, being so rich in nitrogen, phosphates, and albumen, are important factors.

I am glad to say that we have few diseases of a specific type, that approbium medicorum (cancer) being seldom met with, and that only in senile decay. Occasionally a case of syphilis from Monte Video but it has not taken root, as this social evil is almost absent.

I have, &c.
(Signed) SAMUEL HAMILTON, F.R.C.S.I.,
Member of the Pathological Society, T.C.D.
Colonial Surgeon.

There were four marriages in 1883. The population, as ascertained by the census of 1881, was 1,553, of which 976 were males and 577 females. The probable total number at the end of 1883 was 1,610.

Education.

There was an average attendance of 62 at the Government day school in Stanley, and of 70 at the infant school during 1883.

As it was impossible to superintend so large a number without assistance, an assistant teacher was appointed in each school to take charge of the youngest children, and this arrangement has been found successful.

The system of education in both schools is excellent, and the improvement of the pupils has in every respect been very perceptible since the schools have been under the charge of the present master and mistress. It will be necessary to provide a larger room for the senior school. It is now very much crowded when there is a full attendance of scholars, and it is probable that the numbers will go on increasing.

An effort is being made, with every prospect of success, to raise a sum of money by subscription for the purpose of building a church in Stanley, and when this is accomplished, the room now used for divine worship will be available as an additional school-room.

Imports and Exports.

The value of the imports in 1883 was 52,913*l.* In 1882 it was 35,429*l.*, and in 1881 it was 40,443*l.*

The mean of these three years probably represents the consumption of the Colony, as goods are imported irregularly and usually in large quantities and at long intervals.

The value of the exports in 1883 was 84,593*l.* In 1882 it was 76,856*l.*, and in 1881 it was 87,919*l.*

The following table exhibits the relative value of the chief articles of exports in the six years ending 1883 :—

——	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Wool - - -	35,732	55,440	68,327	70,927	57,655	68,313
Tallow - - -	4,874	5,940	6,760	4,519	10,120	8,735
Sheepskins - -	2,040	1,940	1,872	3,266	3,893	4,345
Hides - - -	5,170	5,020	7,875	8,206	4,819	2,775
Bones, horns, and hair -	8	10	18	33	20	118
Seal skins - -	1,213	1,400	2,100	968	—	—
Seal and penguin oil -	1,312	1,200	1,100	—	—	—
Junk and old metal -	106	90	120	—	339	306

Shipping.

Twenty-three sailing vessels, the aggregate tonnage of which was 14,238, and the crews of which numbered 304, arrived in the Colony in 1883.

In 1882 the number of arrivals was 30 and the tonnage was 20,174.

Of the arrivals in 1883, eight were engaged in the trade of the Colony. Thirteen had sustained serious damage from furious gales encountered in the vicinity of Cape Horn, and came to Stanley for repairs, one (the German barque "Niagara") came in for medical aid and refreshments for her crew, who were ill with scurvy, and one, the German barque "Adolph," with the master so ill that he died soon after her arrival.

Of the disabled ships there were seven British, four American, one German, and one Norwegian.

They were all repaired, and proceeded on their voyages with the exception of the Norwegian barque "Prœcis," which was so much damaged that she was condemned by survey as unseaworthy and sold. The hull was purchased for a receiving hulk by Messrs. Dean and Sons of Stanley, and the cargo was forwarded to its destination in Chili by one of the Kosmos Company's steamers.

The master and crew of the British barque "Jessica," which foundered near Cape Horn, were brought to Stanley by the American ship P.C. "Merryman," which sustained damage and put into Stanley for repairs.

The monthly mail service was regularly performed by the steamships of the Kosmos Company. Thirteen of their vessels arrived at Stanley during the year, 12 of them being contract mail steamers, and one an extra vessel for cargo.

The Kosmos Company's coasting steamer "Malrinas" whilst on a voyage to the West Falklands in January ran on a reef near Saunders Island, and had to proceed to Monte Video to be

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docked and repaired. She returned to Stanley on the 9th of March.

Her Majesty's ships "Amethyst," "Firefly," "Rambler" and "Rifleman" of the south-east coast of America squadron visited the Islands during the close season for the protection of the fisheries. Her Majesty's ship "Thetis," of the Pacific squadron, called at Stanley on her return to England, and took on two convicts with a warder, who were to proceed to Malta.

Her Majesty's ship "Comus" visited the Colony on her homeward passage from the Pacific.

The German ship of war "Marie" visited Stanley in August on her passage from Punta Arenas to South Georgia to embark the scientific expedition sent there in 1882 by the German Government.

The French ship of war "Romanche," which took a scientific party to one of the islands of the Fuegian group, visited Stanley in March for coals and supplies.

Criminal Statistics.

The only conviction in the Supreme Court in 1883 was a case of manslaughter arising out of a drunken brawl, in which a man received a blow in the face, which caused erysipelas, terminating in death. The aggressor underwent a short term of imprisonment, with hard labour.

There were 24 summary convictions, none of them for serious offences. The cases were chiefly trifling assaults and offences under the shipping Act by refractory seamen.

General.

The condition of the Colony continued prosperous throughout the year. The winter was comparatively mild, and the weather throughout the year was favourable for the sheep farmers. I visited most of the outlying stations in the "Amethyst" in February 1883, when the sheep shearing was going on. There was an abundant clip of wool, and everyone seemed contented and hopeful. The question of exporting frozen carcases, instead of converting the surplus stock of sheep into tallow was being agitated, and it seemed probable that steps would soon be taken to organise a company for the purpose of establishing a freezing depôt, and to make the necessary arrangements for sending frozen meat to England by steamers.

About 6,000 sheep were exported from this Colony in 1883, chiefly from the West Falkland settlements, for the purpose of stocking sheep runs on the Chilian territory on the north side of the Straits of Magellan. Concessions of land, it is said, have been obtained from the Chilian Government by some of the inhabitants of Punta Arenas as well as by some of the lessees of the Crown in this Colony. Mr. Waldron and some others of the settlers in the West Falkland are engaged in this enterprise, which is said to be attended by many risks, such as insecurity of tenure, ravages of beast of prey, and the hostility of the Patagonian natives. The sheep from this Colony were taken over by the local steamers and

schooners, and it is said that the export is likely to continue for some time from the probability of sheep runs being established on Terra del Fuego as well as in Patagonia.

Two of the principal officers of the Colonial Government died during the year.

Mr. Arthur Bailey, Police Magistrate, Coroner, Registrar, and Receiver of Wrecks, died on the 18th of September.

Mr. Bailey had been in the service of the Colony for 35 years. He held the situation of Surveyor-General from 1848 until the abolition of the office in 1873, when he was awarded a pension, which he continued to receive until his death, the salaries and emoluments of the offices which he subsequently held not exceeding, with his pension, the salary of the office which was abolished. Mr. Bailey was also a member of the Executive and Legislative Councils, in which his long experience and his intimate acquaintance with the early history of the Colony enabled him to render valuable assistance to the Government. By his death the pension list of the Colony was reduced from 635*l.* to 369*l.* a year.

Mr. C. de Freville Green, who filled the various offices of Colonial Secretary, Treasurer, Postmaster, Collector of Customs, Harbour Master, Shipping Master, and Registrar of the Superior Courts, died on the 25th of October. Mr. Green only arrived in the Colony on the 27th of November 1882.

The deaths of these two officers caused vacancies most of which it was impossible to fill up even temporarily in the Colony, but the duties were carried on till the end of the year by the Governor with the assistance of the clerk, the Colonial Surgeon acting as Police Magistrate and Coroner, and the Colonial Chaplain as Registrar.

The investigation of the accounts of the Colony commenced in 1882 by Mr. H. F. Blissett, C.M.G., as Commissioner for Accounts, consequent on the defalcations and other misconduct of the former treasurer, was brought to a close in 1883, when it was ascertained that after the recovery of 700*l.* from a guarantee society, and of a small sum from the sale of personal effects the loss of the Colony by the frauds of Mr. Collins only amounted to 17*l.* 11*s.* 9*d.*

Under the arrangement concluded with the Government of Malta, two convicts under sentences of penal servitude were embarked in H.M.S. "Thetis" on the 21st of April for conveyance to Malta to undergo their sentences in the prison of that Colony.

The resources of the Colony at the close of 1883 were in a satisfactory condition, and it would not appear to be necessary for any further contribution to be made by the Imperial Government in aid of its finances.

I have, &c.
(Signed) T. KERR,
Governor.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Derby, K.G.
&c. &c.

TRINIDAD.

No. 7.

Administrator J. SCOTT BUSHE, C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY, K.G.

MY LORD, Trinidad, August 7, 1884.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the Blue Book of the Colony for the past year, together with a report thereon which I had yesterday addressed to the late Lieutenant Governor

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. SCOTT BUSH,
Governor.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Derby, K.G.
&c. &c. &c.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Trinidad,
August 6, 1884.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to place in your Excellency's hands the Blue Book of the Colony for the year 1883, together with a short report upon its contents.

Taxes and Duties.

The only change made in the tariff of Customs duties during the year was the addition, under the authority of Ordinance No. 12 of 1883, of a duty of 10*s.* on each imported dog, the object of its imposition being to check the nuisance caused by the introduction in large numbers from the neighbouring colonies of mongrel curs.

The export duty levied under Ordinance No. 14 of 1882 for the purposes of immigration was, during the past year, slightly in excess of that charged in 1882, as will be seen from the subjoined table:—

	1883.	1882.
	s. *d.*	*s.* *d.*
Sugar, for every hogshead - - -	6 6	6 0
„ „ tierce - - -	4 6	4 2
„ „ barrel or bag - -	0 9	0 8
Molasses, for every puncheon - -	2 2	2 0
„ „ half puncheon - -	1 1	1 0
„ „ package less than half puncheon - -	0 9	0 8
Rum, for every puncheon - - -	4 4	4 0
Cocoa „ 100 lbs. - - -	0 10½	0 10
Coffee „ „ - - -	0 10½	0 10

On produce exported in any package, except those above mentioned, the comparison was as follows :—

——	1883.	1882.
	s. *d.*	*s.* *d.*
On sugar, per 1,000 lbs. - - -	3 3	3 0
On rum, per 100 gallons - - -	4 4	4 0

Fees.

In this return will be found included the scale of fees payable to the Deputy Marshal at San Fernando in the Supreme Court (Summary Jurisdiction) and under the Debtors Ordinance, 1880, which was fixed by an Order of Court dated 26th June 1883.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue of the year was 458,344*l.*, yielded principally by—

	£
Customs - - - -	178,886
Rum duty - - - -	83,702
Immigration - - - -	38,771
Land sales - - - -	13,068
Licenses - - - -	21,545
Taxes - - - - -	28,239
Postage - - - -	4,896
Fines, forfeitures, and fees of court -	8,227
Fees of office - - - -	3,167
Reimbursements in aid - - -	16,555
Railway traffic receipts - - -	49,224

A comparison of the total revenue of 1882 and 1883 shows an increase of 20,961*l.* in favour of the past year.

The principal increases of receipt occurred under the following heads :—

	£
Customs - - - -	14,226
Immigration - - - -	2,324
Land sales - - - -	4,043
Licenses - - - -	3,570
Railway traffic receipts - - -	3,038

The expenditure of 1883 was 464,430*l.* as compared with 441,194*l.* in 1882.

TRINIDAD.

The principal increases in the expenditure will be found under the following heads :—

	£
Establishments - - - -	6,369
Education - - - -	1,268
Postage - - - - -	3,489
Miscellaneous services - - -	1,773
Interest - - - - -	1,717
Railway working expenses - -	1,637
Railway interest and sinking fund -	5,612
Public works - - - -	9,172
Ward unions - - - -	1,052

The chief items in respect of which the expenditure of 1883 was less than that of 1882 were :—

	£
Hospitals - - - - -	1,969
Immigration - - - -	5,103
Redemption of debentures - -	4,050

According to the census of 1881, the population of the Colony was, on the 3rd of April of that year, 153,128, adding to this number three fourths of the difference between the birth and death rates of the year (as representing the ordinary increase of the population during the last three quarters), and the number of Indian immigrants introduced, less the number returned to India in 1881, the population of Trinidad at the close of that year may be assumed to have been 155,598.

Continuing this mode of computation, the population on the 31st December 1883 may be taken at 162,168, or making some allowance for immigration from the neighbouring colonies, 163,000, which is probably much below the actual number

Assuming that, not including local taxes for municipal purposes in the towns of Port-of-Spain and San Fernando, the following sources of the revenue of the year 1883 are the only ones which can properly be considered taxation, viz :—

	£
Customs, less drawbacks - -	174,141
Rum duty - - - -	83,703
Licenses - - - -	21,546
Taxes - - - - -	28,239
Legacy duty - - - -	748
Yielding the sum of - - -	308,377

The rate of taxation per head of population in 1883 was 1*l.* 17*s.* 10*d.*

Local Revenues.

The revenue of the borough of Port-of-Spain for the year ended on the 31st of August 1883 was 15,855*l.*, and the expenditure 17,104*l.*, the excess being defrayed from the balance of 3,178*l.* in hand at the close of the preceding year.

In 1882 the borough's revenue was 15,260*l.*, and the expenditure 18,399*l.*

The revenue of the borough of San Fernando for 1883 amounted to 3,860*l.* and the expenditure to 3,600*l.*

In 1882 its revenue and expenditure were respectively 4,214*l.* and 3,873*l.*

Public Debt.

During 1883 a new loan of 12,000*l.*, bearing interest at the rate of 5 per cent., was raised under the authority of Ordinance No. 3 of 1883, for the improvement and extension of the water supply to the town of Port-of-Spain. The entire loan was purchased by the Government of British Guiana at a premium of ¾ per cent.

The total amount of the Colony's debt on the 31st December 1883 was 598,630*l.*, of which 581,080*l.* were owing on account of loans raised for purposes of railway construction; of this amount 232,280*l.* bears interest at the rate of 5 per cent., on the remaining 348,800*l.* the lower rate of 4 per cent. being paid.

Of the sum of 581,080*l.* above referred to only 541,621*l.* was productive during the year, no part of the Guaracara line, on the construction of which the balance was being expended, having been opened for traffic before the 1st January 1884.

Public Works.

The total expenditure in 1883 under this head was 93,093*l.*, and is classified as follows, viz.:—

	£
On roads and bridges - - -	52,770
„ works and buildings - - -	37,231
„ miscellaneous - - -	3,092

The amount appearing against works and buildings includes an item of 11,623*l.* on account of the restoration of the police barracks in Port-of-Spain, which were destroyed by fire in 1881, and were still unfinished at the the end of the past year.

Among the more important buildings undertaken during the year were residences for the district medical officer and magistrate of Cedros, a new police station and court house at Couva, and new Government offices in Port-of-Spain.

Legislation.

During the year 1883 20 Ordinances, of which a list is subjoined, were enacted.

No. 1.—To amend the law relating to savings banks.

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No. 2.—To settle an annuity on the Honpurable Henry Stewart Mitchell, in consideration of the special value of his services in connexion with immigration.

No. 3.—To authorise the raising of a loan of 15,000*l.* for the improvement of the water supply of Port-of-Spain and the suburbs ther eof

No. 4.—To amend the Ordinance No. 3 of 1868, intituled an Ordinance to amend and consolidate the laws with regard to the removal of persons from Crown lands.

No. 5.—Supplemental Appropriation Ordinance for 1882.

No. 6.—To amend the law as to corporal punishment.

No. 7.—To amend "The Port-of-Spain Tramways Ordinance, 1882."

No. 8.—To amend the law as to merchant shipping.

No. 9.—To amend the law as to the supply of water in Port-of-Spain and the suburbs thereof, and the charge for the same.

No. 10.—For the appointment of borough constables.

No. 11.—To amend the Ordinance No. 6 of 1868, intituled An Ordinance for rendering certain offences punishable on summary conviction.

No. 12.—To amend the law relating to duties of customs.

No. 13.—For regulating the laying out of new streets and the construction of buildings in the town of San Fernando.

No. 14.—For further extending the railway to Princes Town.

No. 15.—For facilitating the payment of debts out of real estate.

No. 16.—Appropriation Ordinance for 1884.

No. 17.—To constitute and define certain areas as towns within the meaning of "The Licensing Ordinance, 1881.

No. 18.—To enable Joseph Brown Payne to construct a branch tramway to the Port-of-Spain tramways.

No. 19.—For raising funds in aid of immigration for the year 1884.

No. 20.—For the regulation of streets and traffic.

Of the above the only enactments which appear to me to call for notice are Nos. 8, 9 and 17.

No. 8, with regard to merchant shipping, repeals and re-enacts, with amendments suggested by the Secretary of State and the Board of Trade, the Ordinance No. 2 of 1882.

Ordinance No. 9 increases the water rates in the town of Port-of-Spain to the extent necessary to provide for the redemption of the loan raised under the authority of Ordinance No. 3 of 1883, and, with the view of checking to some extent the excessive waste of water in the town, authorises a reduction of the bore of the pipes laid on to premises.

By Ordinance No. 17, "Towns Definition," the city of St. Joseph and the towns of Arima and Princes Town, in which, having previously been regarded as country villages, the lowest rates for spirit licenses had been charged, were declared towns within the meaning of the licensing Ordinance No. 1 of 1881.

Of the ordinances passed in 1883 No. 11 has since been repealed by Ordinance No. 2 of 1884, and No. 13 by No. 6 of 1884

Councils and Assemblies.

In the members composing the Executive Council there was no change during the year 1883.

In the Legislative Council Mr. Charles Mitchell, as protector of immigrants, took his seat among the official members on the 10th July, and Mr. Marryat having obtained leave of absence, Mr. G. T. Fenwick was on the 8th November sworn to act as an unofficial member.

Civil Establishment.

There were few changes of importance in the civil establishment during the year.

Dr. H. S. Mitchell, C.M.G., protector of immigrants, who retired at the end of 1882, was succeeded by Mr. C. Mitchell, Agent General of Immigrants at Fiji, and Mr. J. A. Bulmer, from Cyprus, was appointed Postmaster General in the place of Mr. J. W. O'Brien, who was dismissed.

Drs. Joseph and Butler were appointed to vacancies in the medical service, which was reduced in 1883 by the retirement of Drs. Chittenden and Fitt, and the death of Dr. Farfan.

The Rev. J. G. Knight, Anglican rector of St. Stephen's, resigned and the Right Rev. Monsignor Orsini, Roman Catholic Curé of St. Joseph, died during the year.

Pensions.

Pensions amounting to 1,164*l.* 4*s.* 6½*d.* were during the year granted to Mr. T. Concannon, sergeant major of police, Dr. H. S. Mitchell, protector of immigrants, Rose Frederick, cook at the House of Refuge, T. N. Selman, warder at the Royal Gaol, Piper, messenger in the Receiver General's department, R. A. Walker, bailiff for the county of Caroni, and Dr. J. F. Chittenden, Government medical officer.

On the other hand pensions to the amount of 624*l.* 16*s.* 8*d.* lapsed by the deaths of Drs. Finlay and Espinet, Mr. St. Luce D'Abadie and Mrs. Burt.

Foreign Consuls.

During the year 1883 Senor F. Fortique succeeded Senor J. D. Landaeta as Consul in this Colony for the United States of Venezuela, and on the 14th December Mr. Hugo Hoffmann was provisionally recognised as Consul for Germany in succession to the late Mr. C. Feez.

On the 16th June the exequatur empowering Mr. August Schöner to act as Consul for the kingdoms of Sweden and Norway received Her Majesty's signature.

Population.

The number of births registered during the year was 5,916, and the deaths 4,665, or an excess of births over deaths of 1,251.

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The number of marriages registered was 712, as against 632 in 1882.

Assuming the population to have been 163,000, the birth rate was 36·29 and the death-rate 28·61 per 1,000.

Miscellaneous Numerical Returns.

The number of depositions in the savings banks was 3,020 as compared with 2,598 in 1882, and the amount of the deposits was 73,934*l.* as against 51,817 in the previous year.

The number of Indian immigrants introduced from Calcutta was 2,053, and 511 coolies who had completed their term of industrial residence in the Colony were returned to India at the public expense.

These people took back with them as the results of their labour here the sum of 13,839*l.* in bills and coin, and gold and silver ornaments and jewellery to the value of 1,453*l.*

Besides the above number 17 returned to Calcutta by the Royal Mail and P. and O. steamers, paying their own passages, and taking with them bills for 4,364*l.*, besides gold and silver jewellery of the value of which no estimate was taken by the Immigration Department.

Education.

The number of boys attending the Queen's Royal College increased from 64 in 1882 to 75 in 1883, and in the College of the Immaculate Conception the increase in the attendance as compared with 1882 was three.

The attendance at the Boys' Model and Training School rose from 154 to 159, and at the Girls' Model and Training School from 102 to 129.

The number of district primary schools wholly supported by the Government was 51, and the number of scholars on their rolls 3,542, 2,185 being boys and 1,357 girls.

The number of denominational schools assisted by the Government was 54, and the number of their scholars 4,734, 2,455 boys and 2,279 girls.

Of the above mentioned number of assisted schools, 24 were Roman Catholic, 14 Church of England and 16 Coolie Mission, and in addition to these there were 24 Estates Schools under the management of the Presbyterian Mission to Indian immigrants in the Colony, which were also aided by the Government, and afforded instruction to 753 scholars.

The total number of children under tuition in the Colony, as shown by the return, was 10,020, but this, of course, does not include the attendance at private schools, of which no estimate can be formed.

The expenditure on education during the year 1883, exclusive of the salaries of the masters of the Queen's Royal College, the superintendents of the Boys' and Girls' Model Schools, and the Inspector of Schools and his office staff, was 14,559*l.* 8*s.* 4½*d.*

Imports and Exports.

The value of the imports in 1883 was 2,663,022*l.*, and of the exports 2,686,670*l.*

For 1882 the figures were, imports 2,399,794*l.*, and exports 2,452,032*l.*, which represents an increase in the import trade of 1883, as compared with that of the preceding year, of 263,228*l.*, or 10 per cent., and in the export trade of 234,638*l.*, or 9 per cent.

The following table will show the Colony's trade for the last five years:—

Year.	Value of Imports.	Value of Exports.	Total Value of Trade.
	£	£	£
1879 - - -	2,223,271	2,264,744	4,488,015
1880 - - -	2,382,632	2,185,512	4,568,144
1881 - - -	2,226,276	2,099,101	4,325,377
1882 - - -	2,399,794	2,452,032	4,851,826
1883 - - -	2,663,022	2,686,670	5,349,692

Of the imports, 1883, the value of the goods which were liable to, and paid, duty, was 1,156,259*l.*; the value of those liable to duty which were warehoused for exportation only and transhipped was 82,093*l.*, and the value of the goods admitted free of duty 1,424,670*l.*

Subjoined is a table showing the value of the imports in 1882 and 1883 from those countries with which the import trade is principally carried on:—

Country.	Value of Import, 1882.	Value of Import, 1883.
	£	£
United Kingdom - - -	808,371	877,916
British East Indies - - -	103,262	92,929
British North America - -	60,334	54,659
France - - - -	128,376	104,599
United States of America - -	402,970	438,271
Venezuela - - - -	750,660*	914,278*

* These figures include the value of gold from the mines of Guayana, amounting in 1882 to 568,935*l.*, and in 1883 to 709,574*l.*

TRINIDAD.

Appended is a list of the quantities and value of the staples of the Island shipped in the years 1882 and 1883.

Article.	Quantities.		Value.	
	1882.	1883.	1882.	1883.
			£	£
Sugar - - - Tons	55,327	54,496	875,269	886,172
Molasses - - Galls.	2,067,859	1,982,176	76,235	74,066
Rum - - - „	1,909	2,394	264	249
Cocoa - - - Lbs.	10,972,687	11,649,785	316,733	372,629
Coffee - - - „	38,204	40,822	940	1,024
Coconuts - - No.	8,071,435	8,826,500	29,826	35,500
Asphalt epurée - Tons	5,945	4,868	11,890	9,737
„ raw - - „	24,815	34,277	24,815	34,277
Bitters - - Galls.	30,633	32,925	30,633	32,925

The following table will show the value of the produce and manufactures of the Colony shipped in 1882 and 1883 to those countries with which the bulk of the export trade is carried on :—

Country.	Value of Exports, 1882.	Value of Exports, 1883.
	£	£
United Kingdom - - -	853,100	611,574
British North America - -	109,324	73,870
France - - - -	104,818	90,419
United States of America - -	329,768	699,605

Shipping.

The shipping statistics indicate a corresponding progress, the total tonnage entered and cleared in 1883 having been 931,068 tons as against 839,963 in 1882, or an increase of 10 per cent.

The subjoined abstract of the returns for 1881, 1882, and 1883, will show the rate of increase, and also the extent to which sailing vessels are being replaced by steamers in the shipping trade of of the Colony :—

Description of Vessel.	Entered and Cleared. No. of Vessels.			Entered and Cleared. Tonnage of Vessels.		
	1881.	1882.	1883.	1881.	1882.	1883.
Sailing - - - -	3,953	4,323	4,128	273,608	264,674	271,07
Steam - - - -	489	495	538	560,271	575,289	659,995
Total - - - -	4,442	4,818	4,666	833,879	839,963	931,068

Agricultural and Grants of Land.

The total number of acres of Crown lands granted and sold in 1882 was 3,126.

In 1883 it was 6,190, and their sale contributed to the revenue the sum of 13,068*l.*

The estimated acreage of the Colony is 1,120,000 acres, of which, 343,400 only having been alienated, there remain undisposed of 776,600 acres, comprising possibly some of the richest tracts of the country.

Of the acreage sold in 1883 it is estimated that at least three fourths have been planted in cocoa, which, at the present rate of extension of its cultivation, will at no very distant period relieve the Colony to a very considerable extent from its present almost entire dependence for its prosperity on the sugar industry.

During the year the cultivation of tobacco and limes, and the manufacture of the former, received some attention, but not to such an extent as to allow of an opinion being yet formed as to the probability of their becoming successful enterprises.

Gaols and Prisoners.

The total number of persons committed to the Roal Gaol in Port-of-Spain in 1883 was 4,130 as compared with 4,548 in 1882, but the daily average number in prison was 564 as againts 562 in the previous year.

The site of the existing gaol affords space for no further buildings, but the necessity for additional prison accommodation is steadily increasing and must at no distant date be met.

The erection of a female prison, a want so long and much felt, and frequently suggested, would, while greatly relieving the overcrowding in the present gaol, allow of such alterations and arrangements being made in it as would materially increase the severity of its discipline and the deterrent effect of its confinemeut, but the difficulty of procuring a suitable site for the building presents itself, and there is no immediate prospect of the present lunatic asylum, which it was proposed should be adapted to the purpose, becoming available.

The total cost of the Prison Department in 1883, including the pay of the staff, was 10,700*l.*, and the value of the prisoners' labour 6,732*l.*, from which it will be seen that the gross cost per prisoner per day was 1*s.* 0½*d.*, and the net cost 4¾*d.*

Criminal Statistics.

The number of offences reported to the police or magistrates during 1883 was 17,705, as against 16,163 in 1882.

Of these cases 9,132 resulted in summary convictions, 2,657 in acquittal, 5,232 were discharged for want of prosecution or evidence, and 234 were committed for trial in the Superior Courts.

TRINIDAD.

In the Superior Courts the number of convictions was 114, the number of acquittals 84, one prisoner was found insane, and 29 cases were thrown out.

It will be observed that there was, as compared with 1882, a considerable decrease in the convictions in the Superior Courts for the more serious crimes.

In 1882 the total number of convictions in those courts was 123. In 1883 it was 114.

The convictions of 1882 included six for murder, four for manslaughter, and one for attempt at murder, while in the past year the convictions for murder were two, and under the other two headings nil.

During the five years from 1878 to 1882 wife murder, so frequent among the Indian population, never fell to a lower rate than 23 per 10,000 of the population (and in 1880 rose to ·43), but in the past year it declined to ·06.

Hospitals.

The returns for 1883 are as follows:—

Colonial Hospital, Port-of-Spain.

Number of inmates remaining on 31st December 1882 - - -	411
Admissions during 1883 - - -	3,922
Deaths „ „ - - -	457
Discharges „ „ - - -	3,460
Percentage of deaths to cases treated -	10·54
Number of inmates at close of the year -	416

San Fernando Hospital.

Number of inmates remaining on 31st December 1882 - - -	147
Admissions during 1883 - - -	1,694
Deaths „ „ - - -	175
Discharges „ „ - - -	1,518
Percentage of deaths to cases treated -	9·5
Number of inmates at close of the year -	148

Lunatic Asylum.

Number of inmates remaining on 31st December 1882 - - -	298
Admission during 1883 - - -	103
Deaths „ „ - - -	54
Discharges „ „ - - -	67
Percentage of deaths to cases treated -	13·46
Number of inmates at close of the year -	280

Leper Asylum.

Number of inmates remaining on 31st December 1882 - - -	136
Admissions during 1883 - - -	49
Deaths „ „ - - -	25
Discharges „ „ - - -	21
Percentage of deaths to cases treated -	13·51
Number of inmates at the close of the year	139

House of Refuge.

Number of inmates remaining on 31st December 1882 - - -	148
Admissions during 1883 - - -	110
Deaths „ „ - - -	42
Discharges „ „ - - -	42
Percentage of deaths to cases treated -	16·27
Number of inmates at the close of the year	174

General Remarks.

During the year 1882 the Colony was happily visited by no epidemic disease, and the public health was good.

The sugar crop was not so large as that of the preceding year, but in the other principal products there was a decided increase.

As the Blue Book has only just reached me from the Government Printing Office, and as it is desirable that its transmission to England should not be delayed, I have confined my remarks simply to a resumé of the statistics it contains.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. SCOTT BUSHE,
Colonial Secretary.

His Excellency
Sir F. P. Barlee, K.C.M.G.,
&c. &c.

BARBADOS.

No. 8.

Administrator H. R. BROWNE to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY, K.G.

MY LORD, Barbados, August 27, 1884.

I HAVE the honour to forward a report on the Barbados Blue Book for 1883, which has been prepared by the Acting Colonial Secretary, Mr. King-Harman. The Blue Book itself is in the hands of the printers, and will be transmitted to your Lordship in the course of next month.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. R. BROWNE.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Derby, K.G.,
&c. &c.

BARBADOS.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK, BARBADOS, 1883.

Finance.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
The year under report commenced with a balance of - - -	12,669	3	5
The receipts during the year were -	140,079	1	7
Total - - -	152,748	5	0

The ordinary expenditure during the year was 143,106*l.* 15*s.* 3½*d.*, showing an excess of expenditure over revenue of 3,027*l.* 13*s.* 8½*d.* There was also spent during the year on extraordinary public works a sum of 6,191*l.* 5*s.* 4*d.*, obtained from debentures issued under the authority of the Public Works Loan Act, 1881.

The balance remaining in the treasury at the close of the year was 3,450*l.* 4*s.* 4½*d.* The revenue was derived from customs and excise duties, fees and fines, post office, market dues, interest on investments, and sundry special receipts and reimbursements in aid. Of the gross amount collected, customs receipts contributed 88,753*l.* 12*s.* 7*d.*, leaving 51,325*l.* 9*s.* received from other sources.

The revenue is likely to be further augmented by the passing of the Trade Act in June 1883, which provides for the collection of increased duties on certain articles, while lowering the tax on the tonnage of vessels.

The assets of the Colony on 31st December 1883 were:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
By balance in the treasury - -	3,450	4	4½
Loans - - - -	9,425	0	0
Due on purchase of land - -	1,298	18	4
Total - - - -	14,174	2	8½

The liabilities were,—to debentures issued under authority of Public Works Loan Act 4,000*l.* The financial position of the Colony may therefore be regarded as satisfactory, and the revenue shows signs of being equal to the increased demands made upon it.

Trade.

An examination of the customs returns shows the trade of the Island to be in a satisfactory condition, the import duties having exceeded those collected in the previous year by 2,100*l.* The total customs revenue was less than that of 1882 by about 900*l.*, which is attributable to the operation of the Trade Act of 1882, under the provisions of which the tonnage dues were considerably reduced. The Act came into operation on the 1st June, and the estimated loss on tonnage dues from that date to the close of the year was 2,000*l.* While these dues were reduced and in many

cases abolished, a corresponding revision was made of the tariff, and the increased duties on many articles will in time more than compensate for the deficiency which will ensue under the head of tonnage.

The principal foreign trade of the Colony continues to be in the direction of Great Britain and the United States, while a considerable amount of what may be called home trade is carried on with the neighbouring West Indian Islands.

The principal imports were, from Great Britain:—rice and other grain, ground and unground, butter, cheese, salt meat, spirits, wine and malt liquor, linen, cotton, woollen, and leather manufactures, hardware and machinery, coal, guano and other manures.

From British West Indies:—coffee, cocoa, rice, crystallized sugar, horses.

From India:—rice.

From other British Colonies and Possessions:—dried, and pickled fish, hay, oats, lumber and staves.

From United States:—grain, ground and unground, bread, salt meat, butter, lard, cheese, refined sugar, hay, matches, kerosine oil, tobacco, lumber, staves, horses and mules.

From other foreign countries:—horses, mules, horned cattle, wooden hoops and crystallized sugar. The exports of the products of the Colony, besides sugar and molasses, the staple crop, were vegetables, preserved tamarinds, building lime, hides, petroleum, matches, and very small quantities of aloes, arrowroot, and live stock.

The total value of imports was—

	£	£
From United Kingdom - -	458,946	
„ British Colonies and Possessions - - -	207,912	
„ Foreign countries - -	488,484	
		1,155,342

The total value of exports was—

To United Kingdom - -	440,784	
„ British Colonies and Possessions - - -	274,611	
„ Foreign countries - -	425,738	
		1,141,133
		2,296,475

The export trade may be divided as follows:—

	£
Staple (sugar molasses and rum) -	807,166
Other products of the Colony - -	159,228
Re-exports - - - -	174,739
	1,141,133

BARBADOS.

Public Debt.

The Colony for the first time has contracted a public debt. In 1881 an Act, entitled the Public Works Loan Act, was passed sanctioning the raising of 45,000*l.* by the issue of debentures for the purpose of carrying out several important and necessary public works. Debentures under this Act were issued in 1883, and at the close of that year the public debt of the Colony stood at 4,000*l.* A clause in the Act provides for a sinking fund for the extinction of the debt.

Public Works.

The total amount spent on public works was 10,318*l.* 1*s.* 11*d.*, of which 5,922*l.* 16*s.* 4*d.* was expended on the completion of the extension of the Glendairy prison and the reformatory for boys, both of which works were begun in the previous year. The extension of the prison provides 100 separate cells and well supplies a want long felt in the Colony. The reformatory has accommodation for 104 boys, and the benefit of the institution is already felt.

Councils and Assemblies.

In the Executive Council the only change which took place was the officer commanding the troops. Major-General D. J Gamble sat in this capacity during the early part of the year; he was succeeded in the Council by Colonel W. C. Justice, who remained a member until the arrival in the Colony of Major-General H. R. Browne, who assumed the command of the troops and took his seat in Council accordingly. The other members were, Mr. C. C. Knollys, Colonial Secretary, Mr. Conrad Reeves, Q.C., Attorney-General, Sir John Sealy, K.C.M.G., and Mr. N. Foderingham.

In the Legislative Council the appointment of Mr. H. A. Bovell, Solicitor-General, was the only change made from the previous year.

The annual writs for the House of Assembly were made returnable on 24th July, when the following changes were found to have taken place. Messrs. Grannum and Cottle returned for the city of Bridgetown in the place of Messrs. Inniss and Lynch, and Mr. C. C. Knollys for the parish of Saint George in the place of Mr. Hely Hutchinson, who had left the Island.

Legislation.

During the year 1883, 29 laws were passed and received the Royal Assent. The most important of these, besides those appropriating money for the general service of the Colony, were:—

(1.) An Act to amend the law relating to superannuation allowances, by which the pension list for public officers was virtually abolished.

(2.) An Act to amend the Trade Act, 1878, wherein the tariff was revised; and

(3.) An Act vesting the functions of the Governor in Executive Council, in the Governor in Executive Committee.

None of the other measures, although contributing in great measure to the good of the community, seem to call for any special comment.

Education.

The education of the Island progresses satisfactorily and the number on the school register increases steadily. The legislature have conferred upon the Education Board powers of enforcing compulsory education should any need for pr ssure be found necessary; but the anxiety manifested by the people, particularly in the rural districts, to participate in the benefit held out to them by the opening of elementary schools is so great as to preclude the necessity of enforcing the compulsory clauses of the Education Act. A sum not exceeding 15,000*l.*, placed at the disposition of the Board for the furtherance of the objects of the Act is laid out with the best results. The two first grade schools, Harrison College and the Lodge, with an able staff of masters, graduates of the home Universities, supply a class of education fully up to the standard of public schools in England, while the ladies' college, under the efficient management of Miss Veitch Brown, a gold medallist, and a graduate in high university honours, has well supplied a most pressing need.

The Barbados scholarship was again won by a pupil of Harrison College, who proceeded to Cambridge to enter on his university career. The Gilchrist Scholarship fell this year for the first time to the lot of Jamaica.

Health.

The health of the community has on the whole been good Some cases of cholera morbus and a prevalency of measles occurred at the beginning and close of the year, and in Bridgetown, where there is much overcrowding, and in some of the outlying parishes where the water supply is defective, a good many cases of typhoid fever were noted. The senior officer in the Army Medical Department reports several cases of simple continued fever among the men in a regiment recently arrived from Malta, from which place he is of opinion the seeds of the disease were brought. The health of the troops has been in no way affected from climatic causes, and, as compared with that of many home stations, the year under report has been very healthy.

Population.

The population of the Island appears to be constantly on the increase, and the total number noted in the Census of 1881, viz., 171,860, has probably swelled to nearer 180,000. There are however, no sufficient data on which to arrive at an exact conclusion. The coloured population in 1881 numbered 155,806, as against 16,054 white.

Agriculture.

Out of a trifle over 106,000 acres of land, 100,000 may be said to be brought to the highest pitch of cultivation, and with the almost unlimited supply of cheap labour, the planters of Barbados

BARBADOS.

are enabled to raise sugar of first-class quality on advantageous terms with regard to competitors in neighbouring Islands. The whole of the arable land in the Colony is tilled with the greatest care and skill, and highly and artificially manured for the production of the best quality of crops. Sugar cane monopolises by far the greater portion of the Island, but the native vegetables of good quality and many kinds are produced in great abundance. The sugar crop of 1882–83 reaped in the spring of the year under report was a fair one, and yielded an export of 52,896 hogsheads.

Manufactures and industries :—Sugar, molasses, and rum represent the principal manufactured produce of the Island; a rough but useful description of pottery is made in one district, and a manufactory of sulphur matches exist in Bridgetown. A small industry is carried on in the Scotland district, where petroleum oil is found, but the output from the wells in 1883 only amounted to 4,000 gallons, representing a value of 396*l.* There is an abundant supply of fish and at certain seasons of the year a large portion of the population turn their efforts in this direction, but the main enterprise of the country is fixed on the growth and manufacture of sugar.

Military Expenditure.

The expenditure by the Imperial Government in support of the military establisnment maintained in the Colony was 63,431*l.* 12*s.* 9*d.*

Criminal Statistics.

The total number of offences reported to the police during the year under report was 4,113 as against 5,345 noted in the previous year, and this decrease is the more gratifying when we find that the cases of prædial larceny, the prevailing crime in the Island and the one the most difficult of detection, show a falling off of 407 as compared with those reported in 1882.

The improvement is also marked in the cases tried before the magistrates where summary convictions were obtained. Under this head are 7,601 recorded as against 9,309 in the previous year.

The number of cases brought before the Superior Criminal Court was 176 as compared with 250 in 1882. The number of convictions was 129, which, added to the 7,601 from the magistrates' courts, make the total number of convictions 7,730, which is 4·49 per cent. of the estimated population of 172,000. In making this per-centage it must be noted that all petty offences are included, and that should the serious cases be alone considered the number of grave crimes is reduced to ·075 per cent. of the population.

(Signed) C. A. KING-HARMAN,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
20th August 1884.

GRENADA.

No. 9.

Acting Governor MAJOR-GENERAL H. R. BROWNE to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY, K.G.

Barbados, August 14, 1884.

Forwarded.

The Right Hon. (Signed) H. R. BROWNE.
The Earl of Derby, K.G.
&c. &c.

Government House, Grenada,
July 31, 1884.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Excellency my report upon the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1883.

Taxes, Duties, Fees, &c.

2. By an Ordinance which was proclaimed in November 1882 "The License Ordinance, 1881 "was repealed, and changes were made in the licenses which were required to be taken out for keeping vehicles, animals, and guns. These changes are shown below and took effect in 1883.

Licenses under Ordinance 1881.

For a license to own or keep each and every carriage, gig, or buggy, there shall be paid the sum of - - - - -	20*s.*
For a license to own or keep each and every stallion there shall be paid the sum of - - -	2*l.*
For a license to own or keep each and every mare or gelding there shall be paid the sum of -	10*s.*
For a license to own each and every mule used with the saddle or for riding - - -	10*s.*
For a license to keep each and every ass there shall be paid the sum of - - - -	5*s.*
For a license to own, use, carry, or keep a gun, there shall be paid the sum of - - -	10*s.*

Licenses under Ordinance 1882.

For a license to possess or keep each and every carriage drawn by two or more horses there shall be paid the sum of - - -	2*l.*

For a license to possess or keep each and every carriage drawn by one horse there shall be paid the sum of - - - - - 1*l.*

For a license to possess or keep each and every cart there shall be paid the sum of - - - 10*s.*

For a license to possess or keep each and every stallion there shall be paid the sum of - - 2*l.*

For a license to possess or keep each and every mare or gelding there shall be paid the sum of - 10*s.*

For a license to own or keep each and every mule there shall be paid the sum of - - - 7*s.* 6*d.*

For a license to possess or keep each and every ass there shall be paid the sum of - - - 5*s.*

For a license to possess, use, carry, or keep a gun there shall be paid the sum of - - - 10*s.*

3. The excise duty on rum made and consumed in the Colony was raised from 4*s.* to 5*s.* per proof gallon by an Ordinance which was proclaimed in December 1882, but which came into operation on the 1st of January 1883.

4. No other changes were made in taxes or duties, and there were no alterations in fees.

Revenue and Expenditure.

5. The revenue of 1883 was 43,883*l.* 8s. 5*d.*, and the expenditure 46,976*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.* A comparative statement of the revenue and expenditure of the last two years is subjoined:—

Revenue.

	1883.			1882.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
Customs.						
Import duty - - - -	21,092	18	10	16,584	2	5
Warehouse rent - - - -	77	6	9	97	16	9
Excise.						
Rum duty - - - - -	7,761	9	10	9,694	15	0
Licenses.						
Retail spirits - - - -	1,250	0	0	1,230	0	0
Auctioneer - - - -	40	0	0	50	0	0
Firearms - - - - -	33	15	0	50	0	0
Carriages and carts - - - -	108	0	0	27	0	0
Boats - - - - -	9	17	6	7	5	6
Boatmen - - - - -	5	8	0	8	4	0
Porters - - - - -	2	2	0	5	18	0
Dogs - - - - -	21	8	0	44	0	0
Stills - - - - -	98	0	0	90	0	0
Dispenser - - - - -	21	0	0	10	0	0
Horses, mules, and asses - -	1,344	12	6	1,334	10	0
Sanitary.						
Medical rate - - - -	408	5	6	396	3	6
Dispensary sales - - - -	100	18	9	55	18	7

	1883.			1882.		
Taxes.						
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
Assessed	4,936	10	0	4,703	11	6
Collected by Marshal	61	11	1	412	4	8
Rents	418	9	4	575	12	2
Fees	53	9	3	62	7	3
Fines and forfeitures	949	18	2	1,355	5	10
Post Office	437	3	1	448	7	4
Costs of escheats	8	3	11	56	14	1
Sales	273	14	8	450	1	7
Refunds	176	5	8	101	17	0
Contribution from Immigration Fund	420	0	0	600	0	0
Stamp Act	3,004	4	3	2,785	18	11
Maintenance, lunatics, from other colonies	311	6	1	406	5	8
Repayment loan, Grenville harbour, and interest thereon	120	0	0	125	0	0
Writ of extent *re* "Kathleen"	—			38	18	10
Transfer from Post Office	—			600	0	0
Miscellaneous	338	5	3	244	13	8
Total	43,883	8	5	42,452	12	3

Expenditure.

	1883.			1882.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
Ecclesiastical	894	0	0	900	6	2
Judicial	4,535	9	7	4,034	0	10
Civil	6,057	9	6	5,735	6	8
Education	2,576	11	5	1,912	3	5
Sanitary	1,130	7	11	2,699	16	10
Poor relief, *i.e.*, charitable allowances	1,042	13	5	1,056	0	9
Police	3,384	10	6	3,374	4	6
Medical	6,722	2	3	5,775	16	3
Gaols and prisons	1,065	19	9	1,312	15	1
Works and repairs	8,057	4	3	11,569	3	5
Collection of taxes	146	1	9	144	1	2
Drawbacks and refunds	72	8	11	54	11	1
Inland post	463	3	4	313	9	8
Telegraph	1,243	11	2	399	13	3
Printing and stationery	756	2	1	637	18	4
Escheats	46	10	2	141	17	1
Hire of buildings	512	0	10	137	16	8
Ice subsidy	145	15	2	145	3	6
Steam communication	100	0	0	400	0	0
Pensions and annuities	688	16	8	649	15	7
Gratuities	71	0	0	—		
Registration of births and deaths	187	9	6	—		
Contribution, Postal Union	326	0	0	—		
Vaccination	102	2	0	—		
Special engineer	481	7	2	—		
Repayment loan from Immigration Fund	2,566	7	1	—		
Excess of remittances to Crown Agents for general services over amounts paid by them from those remittances for those services charged in above items	798	3	7	—		
Miscellaneous	2,803	5	6	1,501	13	5
Total	46,976	13	6	42,895	13	8

GRENADA.

6. The large increase of 4,509*l.* in the import duties in 1883 was mainly due to the levying of an ad valorem duty of 10 per cent. instead of 5 per cent. on articles not enumerated in the tariff. This change was made in November 1882. A larger revenue by 218*l.* was also derived from stamp duties.

7. The excise on rum gave a revenue of 7,761*l.* It had been estimated that 8,800*l.* would have been received from this tax; but the knowledge in November 1882 that the duty would be increased from four to five shillings per gallon after the close of that year caused holders of rum to clear their stocks at the lesser rate, thus throwing a large amount of duty into the revenue of 1882 upon a considerable quantity of rum which only came into consumption in 1883. The duty received in 1882 amounted to 9,694*l.*

8. The expenditute was greater in the last than in the previous year by 4,081, but this arose in the payment of outstanding liabilities, which were all cleared off in the year. The annexed table shows the financial position of the Colony on the 1st January 1884, with surplus assets of 1,195*l.* 17*s.* 4*d.*

Statement showing the Financial Position of the Colony at the close of business on 31*st December,* 1883, *including transactions on account of* 1883 *up to* 15*th January* 1884, *inclusive.*

ASSETS.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Held by Colonial Bank on current account - -	6,187 0 9	
Deposit in Colonial Bank, credit Savings Bank Fund - -	1,300 0 0	
Deposit in Colonial Bank, credit Immigration Fund -	2,000 0 0	
		9,487 0 9
Bills maturing in Crown Agents' hands and remitted		1,085 5 7
Exchequer bills in Crown Agents' hands on account of Immigration Fund - -		3,300 0 0
Balance due by Grenville Harbour Fund		300 0 0
Carried forward - -		14,172 6 4

LIABILITIES.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Balances due to credit of special funds, viz.:—		
Immigration Fund, current account -	3,161 19 0	
Immigration Fund, deposit account -	2,000 0 0	
Immigration Fund, Exchequer bills in hands of Crown Agents - -	3,300 0 0	
		8,461 19 0
Post Office Fund -		464 12 11
Education „ -		237 6 9
Harbour „ -		65 3 11
Water „ -		103 10 4
Grenville Harbour Fund - -		283 17 1
Lands and Buildings Fund - -		52 13 11
Police Reward Fund		52 18 11
Streets Fund, viz.:—		
St. George's -	146 3 11	
Charlotte Town -	55 16 6	
Sauteurs - -	21 9 11	
Grenville - -	30 15 5	
Hillsboro' -	12 0 10	
		266 6 7
Saving's Bank, current account -	289 16 10	
Saving's Bank, deposit account -	1,300 0 0	
		1,589 16 10
Balance due to Crown Agents as per their account to end of November - - -		83 19 3
Carried forward - -		11,662 5 8

	£	s.	d.
Brought forward - -	14,172	6	4
	14,172	6	4

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Brought forward - -				11,662	6	8
Unexecuted orders in their hands, including salaries and postal services to be paid by them to 31st December, estimated - -				1,314	3	4
Balance to credit				1,195	17	4
Total - - -				14,172	6	4
N.B.—The Colony is also liable for the balance of loan from L. F. Marrast for immigration repayable in annual instalments of 1,000*l.* with interest at 5 per cent. per annum -	5,000	0	0			
Also loan from John McPhail for water fund, repayable in in ten years from 1879, bearing interest at 5 per cent. per annum - -	1,000	0	0			
				6,000	0	0

Public Debt.

9. The balance remaining due at 31st December last on the loan of 10,000*l.* which was obtained in 1878 from Mr. Marrast for immigration purposes was 5,000*l.* In April of this year another instalment of 1,000*l.* was paid, with interest, leaving only 4,000*l.* due, on which interest at 5 per cent. is payable.

10. A loan for the St. George's Waterworks Fund of 1,000*l.* was obtained in 1879 from Mr. John McPhail at 5 per cent. interest. This is repayable in 20 years from the date of the loan. The interest has been regularly paid.

11. Besides the above debt the St. George's Waterworks Fund owed at December 31st to other local funds the sum of 2,450*l.* with 73*l.* 10*s.* interest. This debt is repayable in annual instalments extending over a period of some years, with interest at 3 per cent.

12. The loan which was made from the general revenue to the Grenville Harbour Fund in 1880 has been reduced in terms of the conditions for its repayment. The sum of 300*l.* remained due at the end of the year.

Public Works.

13. A considerable part of the year's expenditure was upon public buildings, roads, and bridges. The buildings in the town of St. George, which formerly belonged to the Imperial Government, and which were handed over to the Colony when the troops were withdrawn in 1854, and are now used as public offices and warehouses, were thoroughly repaired and made more suitable for the purposes to which they are appropriated. The premises adjoining these buildings, which are rented for a long term of years, were also repaired and adapted for the public library, for offices, and a warehouse.

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14. To the Lunatic Asylum, besides the repairs necessary for the preservation of the buildings, several important alterations and additions were made for the purpose of providing accommodation for female lunatics from the islands of St. Vincent and Tobago. These islands, therefore, contributed towards the work the share borne by each being calculated on the number of lunatics which each sent to the asylum.

15. To the Colony hospital an operating room and water closets were added, and many other important alterations and improvements were made.

An enclosure wall was built round the yaws hospital for the more complete segregation of its inmates; and repairs and improvements were effected in the district hospitals.

16. Iron railings were erected on the wall on both sides of the Richmond Hill Prison as a preventive to the escape of prisoners The police barracks were repaired and improved, and also the police station and sergeant-major's quarters.

17. In these, and in minor repairs in other directions, the sum of 3,510*l.* 11*s.* 10*d.* was spent.

18. A new bridge was erected over the St. John's river near the town of St. George, the former bridge having been carried away during a heavy flood in November of the previous year. The new bridge was opened in March this year. The total cost of it was 483*l.*, of which 249*l.* 15*s.* 10*d.* fell on the year 1883.

19. At the same time that this bridge was destroyed, the public road passing under Richmond Hill was carried away for a considerable length, leaving but a narrow passage hardly wide enough for a cart. This road was cut out of the side of the cliff about midway between its base and top. The only means of widening the roadway was by cutting into the rock. This had to be done by blasting with gunpowder, and by removing the mass of stone that was broken away. It was tedious work; for the road, being the only one that was available for the traffic between the town and the outlying districts on its eastern side, could not be entirely closed, and consequently the blasts could only be fired at intervals, and in small number, to admit of the roadway being quickly cleared. The estimated cost of the work was 795*l.*, and it was calculated that 30 men should complete it in 12 months. The estimated cost has been exceeded, but the widening of the road has been extended for a longer distance than was calculated for. The work is near completion, and will be finished within the 12 months from its commencement. The expenditure incurred in 1883 on this undertaking was only 279*l.* 1*s.* 8*d.*, the bulk of it falling on this year.

20. The general repairs of the public roads and bridges cost 3,935*l.* 19*s.* 9*d.*

The outlay on the grounds around the Government House was 77*l.* 17*s.* 8*d.*, and on the ponds in Carriacou 3*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*

21. Thus the whole expenditure in 1883 on public works was 8,057*l.* 4*s.* 3*d.*

Legislation.

22. Only 10 Ordinances were published in 1883. Of these probably the most important to the Colony was the law making provision for the arrest and extirpation of the disease known as yaws. By this law justices of the peace, ministers of religion, medical officers, and the police are authorised to send into the hospital which is specially provided for the purpose, for isolation and proper medical treatment, all persons who may be found suffering from this disease.

23. The Public Officers Security Ordinance provides larger facilities to an officer for giving security for the due performance of his duties. The Public Lands Acquisition Ordinance enables the Government to acquire any land belonging to a private individual or corporation which may be required for public purposes, by purchase on mutual agreement, or compulsorily after appraisement of the value thereof by a jury.

24. The Convicts License Ordinance gives power to the Governor to grant to any prisoner who may be committed for a term of two years or more a license, upon certain conditions, to be at large during any portion of his term of imprisonment; reserving, however, to Her Majesty, and to her representative in the Colony, the royal prerogative of mercy.

25. By the Wrecks Inquiry Ordinance former insufficient provisions for holding inquiries into the causes of wrecks on the coast of the Island were repealed, and better and more effective provisions were made for such inquiries.

26. An Ordinance was published granting to Carl Daniel Ekman and others, exclusive rights for a term of seven years in an invention for the improvement of the manufacture of sugar.

27. The Civil List Abolition Ordinance repealed such portions of existing laws as fixed the amount of any salary or allowance to be paid to a public officer of the Government. The Appropriation Ordinance, 1884, provided for the expenditure of the current year, including salaries and allowances, which were formerly fixed and payable under special enactments.

28. The Ordinance to legalize certain proceedings of the Colonial Registrar was passed with the object of removing any doubts as to the validity of the acts of that officer between his assumption of the duties and the time when he entered into the recognizance, which should by law have been entered into before he executed any of such duties.

29. The remaining Ordinance was to amend the Ordinance of 1882, to provide for the revision, consolidation and publication of the laws.

Councils.

30. At the commencement of the year Mr. Goldsworthy, C.M.G., the Administrator of the Government, Mr. Carrington, the Acting Colonial Secretary, and Mr. Reece the Acting Attorney-General, were, in virtue of their offices, members of the Executive and

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Legislative Councils. The two last-named gentlemen left the Colony at the end of January. For a brief period Mr. Edward Drayton, acting as Colonial Secretary, and Mr. Kingdon acting as Attorney General, were members of these councils. In April Mr. Edward Laborde, C.M.G., was appointed Administrator; Mr. H. R. Pipon Schooles was appointed Attorney-General, and Captain Maling resumed his duties as Colonial Secretary, and these gentlemen continued members of the councils during the remainder of the year. There were no other changes.

Civil Establishment.

31. In March Sir William Robinson, K.C.M.G., the Governor-in-Chief, came to Grenada and assumed the administration of its Government, Mr. Goldsworthy, C.M.G., returning to his government of St. Lucia. Upon Sir William Robinson returning to Barbados in April, Mr. Edward Laborde, C.M.G., was appointed to administer this Government. Mr. H. R. Pipon Schooles was appointed Attorney-General in succession to Mr. E. K. Moylan, who was dismissed the service. Mr. D. G. Garraway, the Auditor, and Mr. Kingdon, the magistrate of the southern district, were appointed to offices in St. Vincent, and Mr. Semper from St. Lucia was appointed Acting Auditor, and Mr. Low from St. Vincent, Acting Magistrate. Mr. J. G. Wells, the Excise officer of St. Andrew's, was removed to St. George's, and Mr. H. Hesketh Jondon was appointed in his place. Mr. A. E. Lewis, the warehouse keeper, was sent to St. Lucia, and Mr. Christy took, provisionally, the charge of the warehouses. Mr. C. J. Engledow, the Inspector of Police, obtained leave of absence, and Mr. Cork acted as inspector. Dr. Pentland, the medical officer of Carriacou, went on leave of absence in May, and resigned his appointment in December. Dr. Hatton, the house surgeon of the Colony hospital, took up, provisionally, the duties of medical officer in Carriacou upon Dr. Pentland's departure in May. Mr. Risk, the Colonial Surveyor, who had been on leave since December 1882, resumed his duties in July 1883.

Pensions.

32. The pension list was increased by the contribution of 38*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* towards the retiring pension granted to Mr. W. J. Roach, sometime road surveyor in this Colony. On the other hand, a pension of 52*l.* 10*s.* fell in by the death of Mr. Thomas J. Rowlsy, a revenue officer.

Population.

33. The births recorded in the year were 1,913 in number, and the deaths 941. Of the former 917 were males, and 996 females; of the latter 480 were males, and 461 females. There were 78 still-births; 39 males, and 39 females, which were recorded both as births and deaths.

34. The birth-rate of the year was 4·37 per cent.; and the death-rate 2·15. The former is, with three exceptions, the highest birth-rate in the last ten years, and the latter is the lowest death-rate in that period.

35. The mortality among infants of one year and under was 296, or 15·47 per cent. of the births, and of all ages under 15 the rate was 29·57. This is a smaller proportion than in some other West India Colonies, and indicates that parents in Grenada are more careful of their children. Doubtless this is because the peasantry here are well-to-do, and better able to give proper and sufficient nourishment and food to their infants and children.

36. This well-to-do condition of the people does not, however, appear to have much effect in encouraging marriages, and in reducing the number of illegitimate births, for the marriages are few in proportion to the population, and illegitimacy attaches to over 52 per cent. of the births.

37. The Registrar-General, from the statistics in his possession estimates the population of the Island and its dependencies to have been at the close of the year 1883, 44,729, of whom 21,219 were males and 23,510 were females.

38. The marriages celebrated in the year number 224, of which 114 were solemnized by priests of the Roman Catholic Church 81 by those of the Church of England, and 29 by Wesleyan ministers.

Savings Bank.

39. This institution, which was only established in November 1881, is rapidly enlarging its operations, and showing that it is becoming more and more appreciated among the people. At the end of December 1881, less than two months after it was opened, the bank had 87*l.* 19*s.* 10*d.* on deposit from 19 depositors; at the end of 1882 the number of depositors had increased to 108, and the amount on deposit to 787*l.* 11*s.* 8*d.*, and at the close of 1883 the depositors numbered 115, and the deposits were 1,589*l.* 16*s.* 10*d.*

40. Of this amount the sum of 1,300*l.* has been placed in the Colonial Bank, bearing interest at 3 per cent.

Education.

41. The system which was introduced under "the Education Ordinance, 1882" seems to be working well and giving improved results. The number of children on the registers at the and of March 1883 was 2,106, and the number at the corresponding period of 1884 was 3,577, giving an increase of 1,471, the average attendance at the latter period showing an increase of 849. The number present on examination day in 1883 was

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1,203, and the examinates were 803; in the last twelvemonth these numbers were respectively 2,487 and 1,016, showing an increase in the number present of 1,284 and of examinates 213.

42. On this subject Mr. Begrie, the Inspector of Schools, says: "In nearly all of the schools the master is certificated, the scholars "arranged in standards (so that during their stay in school they "may be carried through a regular course of study), and the "schools have received a pretty fair supply of necessary school "furniture, clocks, presses, and desks, together with reading "books, slates, &c. The severe remarks I was compelled to "make in my first report in regard to the falsification of returns "have had a beneficial effect, and I believe the monthly and "other returns to be, on the whole, faithful, though I am not "yet satisfied, for I found two teachers with registers unmarked "for several days, and a third with his so for the whole of "October. None of these teachers were paid on the average "attendance for those months, and I hope the loss will be a "sufficient warning. Registers should be not only preserved "intact, but be marked and the returns compiled from them with "the greatest possible care, since from them statistics bearing "on the average number in attendance, with increase or decrease "of the same, amount of school fees, and other matters required "for the information of the public are taken, and these cannot "be correct if drawn from an unreliable source."

43. The success of a school depends so much upon the competency of the master, not only as regards his own knowledge of the subjects he is to teach, but also, and perhaps mainly, as regards his method and power of management, that the fact of a certificated teacher being in charge of every, or nearly every, school is an important feature in the progress of education in the past year, and is a sure guarantee of continuing improvement.

44. Certificated teachers receive extra pay according to the class which they attain upon the results of the examinations which they pass, they also have result fees on the passes obtained by their examinates, and fees on the average attendance, as well as the weekly pence of the children attending. These are all inducements to diligent study, to careful management, and to attention in bringing forward their pupils so as to secure the good opinion, confidence, and support of the parents.

45. The beneficial results to the masters of this system are shown in the following cases:—The master of a school in St. George's under the old system earned as his remuneration for a year's work the sum of 57*l.* 10*s.*, the present master of that school is earning 106*l.* In a school in an out town, where the master formerly worked the year through for 48*l.*, the master now makes 164*l.* These are the largest figures, but there is no master who does not considerably better his position under the recent change in the manner of giving State aid.

46. Sewing mistresses are employed by the Board of Education to teach the girls needlework; and monitors are allowed in the larger schools, and are paid moderate sums monthly.

47. There is room for many more primary schools in the Island; for out of a population of 44,729 there should be many more children in school than the 3,597, which the registers show to be attending them. Hitherto the education grant has been confined to the assistance of the schools which were established under the management of the ministers of the several religious denominations, but these being found insufficient for the educational wants of the people, Government schools are being opened where no schools at present exist.

48. The Board of Education grants money to the ministers of religion to erect, enlarge, or repair the houses in which they keep their State-aided schools. These grants are made for specific sums, according to the wants put forward by the ministers and admitted by the Board as necessary. The sums which are granted are paid in three equal instalments; the first upon the erection of the building, or the completion of its enlargement or repair, as the case may be; the second a year after, and the third in the year following. Aid on these terms has been commonly applied for, and has been received.

49. A further condition which has been recently required in consideration of these grants is that, in the event of the religious denomination not being able to continue the use of the building for school purposes, the Government shall have the option of taking it over for the purpose of keeping a Government school in it.

50. All the foregoing provisions exhibit an earnest desire in the Government to foster and encourage the education of the people; and good results are being seen, and must assuredly continue to be further extended by the system.

51. There is a loud outcry for the establishment of a grammar school, to which early response must be given. A training school for teachers for the primary schools might advantageously be opened in connexion with the grammar school; for as great difficulty is now experienced in procuring teachers for the existing schools, this difficulty will be largely increased when more primary schools are established, except it be met by the aid of a training school.

Imports and Exports.

52. The value of the imports was 135,265*l.*, and of the exports 193,524*l.* In 1882 the value of the former was 136,375*l.*, and of the latter 184,221*l.* The value of the imports from, and of the exports to, different countries in the last three years is shown

below; a large quantity of cocoa was shipped to France in the last year.

Countries.	1881.		1882.		1883.	
	Imports from	Exports to	Imports from	Exports to	Imports from	Exports to
	£	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom - - -	80,043	180,604	79,424	163,791	69,391	155,737
British Colonies - - -	39,002	11,648	37,276	17,134	48,427	11,836
United States of America -	11,664	—	17,516	—	14,980	1,612
France - - - -	—	—	—	—	—	19,437
Other foreign countries - -	1,276	2,028	2,159	3,296	2,467	4,902
Total - - -	131,985	194,280	136,375	184,221	135,265	193,524

53. The products of the Colony in the last three years are stated below, but the quantities do not include that which was for home consumption.

Articles.	1881.	1882.	1883.
Cocoa - - Cwts.	52,293	43,978	46,357
Coffee - - Lbs.	250	1,904	224
Cotton - - Cwts.	1,773	3,036	2,595
Cotton seed - „	4,371	4,528	4,108
Spices - - Lbs.	99,230	77,896	107,184
Rum - - Galls.	2,617	1,270	8,530
Sugar - - Cwts.	18,202	29,504	36,995

Shipping.

54. The total tonnage of the ships which entered at the ports of the Colony in 1883 was 134,055, and the total of the ships which cleared was 98,285 tons, the former being the tonnage of 74 steam and 409 sailing vessels, and the latter of 49 steam and 410 sailing vessels. The total tonnage of British vessels which entered was 130,898, and of foreign vessels 3,157; and the total tonnage of British vessels which cleared was 96,094, and of foreign vessels 2,191.

55. The annexed table shows the total number of vessels, tons, and crews entered and cleared at each port of the Colony.

	Entered.			Cleared.		
	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.
Saint George } Grenada - {	312	129,563	3,582	221	92,293	2,530
Grenville - } {	68	2,504	283	48	1,588	200
Hillsborough Carriacou - -	103	1,988	393	190	4,404	724
Total - - -	483	134,055	4,258	459	98,285	3,454

Prisons.

56. The total commitments to prison in 1883 were 154, of whom 110 were males and 44 females; in 1882, 140 males and 57 females, or 197 persons in all, were committed, showing a decrease of 43 in the year under report.

57. Of the persons committed 106, namely, 69 males and 37 females, were for penal imprisonment, 34 were for safe custody, and 14 for imprisonment under the Debtors Ordinance.

58. Of those committed for penal imprisonment one was sentenced for a term of more than five years, 12 were for terms more than one but less than five years, three for more than three months and less than one year, and 90 for terms of three months or less. In the previous year these numbers were respectively 3, 16, 4, and 147.

59. The daily average in prison was 46 as against 58 in 1882. Four prisoners were admitted to hospital, and in the previous year 12 were admitted; there was no death.

60. The cost of the prison was 1,038*l.* 8*s.* 5*d.*, being 206*l.* 4*s.* 1*d.* less than the cost in 1882. The wages of the officers and servants of the prison are included in this cost.

Criminal Statistics.

61. These show a marked decrease in crime in 1883. The offences numbered 1,760 as against 2,068 in the previous year. There were 29 summary convictions for prædial larceny, and 132 for other offences against property, and for the latter offences there were eight convictions in the Superior Courts. There were 208 summary convictions and three in the Superior Courts for offences against the person. For all other offences the summary convictions were 356, and in the Superior Courts three. Thus during the year there were only 14 convictions in the Superior Courts, and 725 summary convictions. In the previous year the numbers were respectively 34 and 917.

Hospitals.

62. In the Colony hospital on the 1st of January 1883, 22 male and 11 female patients, in all 33, were in hospital, and 245 males and 90 females were admitted in the year, making a total of 368 patients under treatment. The daily average was 33.

63. There were 16 deaths, giving a death-rate on those under treatment of 4·34 per cent., and on the bed-rate 48·48 per cent. In the previous year these rates were 8·37 and 68 per cent. respectively. Three hundred and sixteen patients were discharged, of whom 253 were cured and 63 relieved. At the close of the year 36 patients remained under treatment.

64. In the yaws hospital there remained from the previous year 52 patients, 25 males and 27 females. In the year under report

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324 patients were admitted, 219 males and 105 females, making a total of 376 under treatment. The daily average in the hospital was 85.

65. Three patients died; 300 were discharged cured, and three relieved; leaving 70 patients, 39 males and 31 females in the hospital at the close of 1883. The deaths calculated on the number treated were ·79 per cent., and on the daily average 3·5 per cent.

66. In the St. Andrew's District Hospital there were 10 patients from 1882, seven males and three females. In the year 55 males and 18 females were admitted, making a total of 83 under treatment, with a daily average of 10. 65 patients were discharged cured, five relieved, and three not improved. There were four deaths. The deaths were 4·81 per cent. on the cases, and 40 per cent. on the daily average or bed-rate.

67. In the St. John's District Hospital 10 patients remained from 1882, and 63 were received in the year, making a total of 73 under treatment, 42 males and 31 females. There were three deaths; 57 patients were discharged cured, four relieved, and four not improved. The death-rate on the cases was 4·1, and on the daily average 34·1.

68. The St. Patrick's District Hospital, which had been opened for the treatment of Indian immigrants under indentures of service, was closed in April 1883, the district hospitals of St. Andrew and St. John, and the Colony hospital in St. George, being deemed sufficient for the accommodation of patients of all classes; and this was found to be so, for at no time were these hospitals crowded. I annex a copy of the Colonial Surgeon's report upon these institutions, but without the tabulated statements to which he refers.

Lunatic Asylum.

69. There were 52 inmates, 29 males and 23 females, in this establishment at the commencement of 1883, and 11 males and 23 females were received, making a total of 86 under treatment in the year. The daily average was 71. There were three deaths, and 10 were discharged.

70. Of the 23 females admitted, 15 were from St. Vincent, and four from Tobago. Although male lunatics from the other islands of the Windward group (except Barbados) had been received in this asylum for some years past, no accommodation had been provided until 1883 for the reception of their female lunatics.

71. Of the 73 inmates remaining in the asylum on the 31st December last 32 were from the other islands. From St. Vincent there were six males and 14 females (one female having been returned cured in November); from Tobago three males and four females, and from St. Lucia five females. In re-imbursement of the cost of their maintenance each Colony pays to this Government, 24*l.* per annum for each lunatic sent from it to the asylum.

72. I frequently visited, without previous notice, the male and female departments of this institution, and I always found the

dormitories, airing yards, and out offices scrupulously clean, and the inmates looking as comfortable and as happy as can be expected of such unfortunate sufferers. I annex a copy of the report by Dr. Macleod, the medical officer of the asylum, in which he also reports upon the Poor House and Leper Asylum.

General Remarks.

73. The past year was a fairly prosperous one, the exports which were the growth and manufacture of the Colony having, with the exception of coffee and cotton, exceeded in quantities the exports of the previous year. Were it not that the price of sugar was so very low and unremunerative, Grenada would be a most prosperous island; as it is, however, she is more fortunate and holds a far better position than the sister isles from her large and increasing cultivation of cocoa and spices, which yield fair profits.

74. There are large tracts of land, not now cultivated or imperfectly so, on which formerly the sugar cane was grown, which are still well adapted for its profitable cultivation were usines established, in convenient spots, for the manufacture of refined sugar on a large scale. These lands are well watered, the roads are not difficult and could be easily made good and kept in order, and the shipping port is conveniently situated. I believe that there is an excellent opening here for the investment of capital if sugar is ever again to become a profitable production in the West India Colonies.

75. The health of the Island continued good throughout the past year; there were very few cases of crime, and none of a serious character; the relations between masters and servants were easy; trade was fairly maintained; the revenue of the Colony was large, and the financial difficulties which pressed at the opening of the year were entirely dispersed at its close. In every way, then, except in regard to the state of the sugar market, 1883 may be looked back upon by those connected with the Colony as a satisfactory year.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD LABORDE.

His Excellency
Sir William Robinson, K.C.M.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

GRENADA.

REPORT BY COLONIAL SURGEON ON CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward, for the information of his Honour the Administrator, the annual medical returns of the charitable institutions of the Colony for the year 1883.

Colony Hospital.

2. The administration of the Colony hospital has undergone some change during the year.

3. In the month of May Dr. Hatton, the house surgeon, was removed to Carriacou to act for Dr. Pentland the health officer of that island during his leave of absence for six weeks.

4. Dr. Pentland's leave having been extended from time to time by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, Dr. Hatton was retained in the acting appointment for the remainder of the year.

5. The removal of Dr. Hatton to Carriacou was a necessity that could not be avoided, his absence is a great loss to the hospital, where his professional services, combined with his zeal and ability, were having a manifest and salutary effect on the management of the institution.

6. By the change the entire administration was vested in the Colonial Surgeon, who had, besides the details of management, the whole of the professional work thrown upon his shoulders. He leaves it for his Honour to say if those duties have been faithfully performed or not.

7. A change was also effected in the office of steward to the hospital. Mr. Chance on my recommendation was dismissed by Mr. Administrator Goldsworthy, and Mr. James Murphy appointed in his stead.

8. The alterations and improvements to the building recommended by the Secretary of State for the Colonies in his despatch of 28th October 1880, and which I reported last year as being in progress, were unfortunately brought to a standstill by the financial difficulties into which the Colony was thrown.

9. Towards the end of the year those difficulties having been removed, his Honour the Administrator gave instructions for the resumption of the work, which, I am happy to say, is now nearly completed, and will be quite so early in this year.

10. The recommendations of the Secretary of State have been as far as circumstances would allow, carried out. The plan recommended, as far as the latrines and operating room are concerned, had to deviated from slightly from the nature and irregularity of the land surrounding the building.

11. I annex a plan* of the hospital by the Surveyor of Public Works which will show better than any written description can the arrangements and distributions of the various departments.

12. The operating room is under a separate roof and apart from the main building, with which it is connected by a way. It was

* Not printed.

not thought necessary to cover the way on account of the close proximity of the buildings.

13. The rooms, very improperly constructed by Lieut. Governor Harley, for "refractory" wards have been altered and converted into quarters for the steward.

14. The dispensary, which was formerly between No. 1 and No. 2 wards, is now thrown into No. 2 ward, and the operating room, which was next to the "refractory" wards, converted into the dispensary.

15. On the ground floor No. 1 ward is in communication both with the steward's quarters and with No. 2 ward. The nurses' room is in communication with No. 2 ward by a door and inspection window. A door has also been opened between No. 2 and No. 3 wards.

16. On the upper floor the wards have been re-arranged, No. 6 ward is converted into a nurses' room, and No. 7 ward re-classed as No. 6. The nurses' room next to No. 4 ward has been provided with an inspection window. The former nurses' room is turned into a store-room.

17. The former latrines have been done away with, and new ones (waterclosets) built for both floors at the back corners of the building; they have been joined on to the verandah, as the space would not allow of their being detached and connected by a wooden bridge, as recommended in the despatch.

18. These closets are well constructed and ventilated. The fittings consist of earthenware troughs, water tanks with ball and socket joints, and self-acting seats. The supply of water is abundant, and the flow good. The soil is conveyed by large size earthenware pipes into the sea on either side of the building. Urinals are also provided in the male closets.

19. Frequent visits of inspection, both of apprise and surprise, have been paid the institution during the year by the Governor-in-Chief, Mr. Administrator Goldsworthy, and the present Administrator, and the Colonial Secretary.

20. The Royal Commissioners appointed to inquire into the financial condition of the West India islands paid a visit of surprise to the hospital.

21. On the 1st January 1883 there remained in the hospital 33 patients, of whom 22 were males and 11 females.

During the year 335 patients were admitted, of whom 245 were males and 90 females, making a total of 368 patients treated. Of these 253 were discharged cured, 63 relieved, 16 died; and there remained on the 1st January 1884 36 patients, of whom 24 are males and 12 females.

22. The death-rate was small, the per-centage less than last year.

In 1882 it was 8·37 per cent., this year it is 4·34 per cent.

23. The following tables* will explain the professional work performed during the year.

* Not printed.

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Table 1, shows the number of cases treated during the year.

Table 2, is a re-capitulation of Table 1, and shows besides the number of days occupied by the patients.

Table 3, a return of the coolies treated during the year.

Table 4, a return of the number of deaths.

Table 5, a return of the operations performed.

Table 6, a return of accidents admitted during the year.

Table 7, a return of the countries of the patients admitted.

24. The total number of days occupied by all the patients was 14,998. The average stay in days of each patient was 40·75, and the daily average in hospital during the year was 53.

25. Three hundred and sixty-eight patients were treated during the year under review at a gross cost of 1,197*l.* 2*s.* 5*d.*, made up by the following items: Servants' wages, 176*l.* 10*s.*; provision for maintenance, 908*l.* 3*s.* 5*d.*; beds, clothing, and petty supplies, 112*l.* 9*s.* The cost for maintenance of each inmate was 1*s.* 5½*d.* per day.

26. The general sanitary condition of the hospital has been most satisfactory.

Yaws Hospital.

The passing of a compulsory yaws Ordinance this year has enabled the authorities to deal more effectually with this class of disease.

2. The clergy, magistrates, medical officers, and police are authorised under the Ordinance to send from their districts into the hospital all cases suffering from the disease.

3. Soon after the Ordinance came into operation (April 1883) great numbers were sent into hospital. The daily average for the first three or four months was 137, an excess of 37 over the number allotted to the building.

4. Although overcrowded, none of the inmates seemed to suffer, but, on the contrary, improved rapidly soon after admittance. This, no doubt, was due to perfect ventilation of the building.

5. The hospital, which faces the sea, has been surrounded on three sides by a high wall, the ends of which run down to the water's edge.

6. By this arrangement the patients have been isolated and kept under better inspection and supervision.

7. The building, as mentioned in paragraph 4, is well ventilated, and there is sufficient room for exercise and recreation.

8. Every care is taken to prevent the spread of the disease.

9. The patients are not allowed to leave the hospital, and no one is permitted access to the building, except under particular circumstances and by order of the medical attendants.

10. The staff consists of a steward and two nurses, who perform all the work of the hospital, assisted by such of the patients as are physically capable.

11. The number of attendants may seem small for such a crowded institution, but a great deal of the work, as I said before, is performed by the patients, who do it willingly and cheerfully.

12. The cooking for the inmates of this institution is done at the Colony hospital kitchen. This is an evil, and should be remedied. A kitchen should be erected in the yard of the hospital as soon as circumstances will allow of such an undertaking.

13. On the 1st January 1883 there remained in the hospital 52 patients, of whom 25 were males and 27 females. During the year 324 cases were admitted, of whom 244 were males and 132 females, making a total of 376 patients treated. Of these, 300 were discharged cured, three relieved, three died, and there remained on the 1st January 1884 70 patients, of whom 39 were males and 31 females.

14. The three cases discharged as relieved were really cured of the yaws; they suffered from the consecutive disease called crabs, which is not contagious, and which in these cases resisted all attempts at a cure.

15. A few of the cases were re-admitted; but as the patients were discharged apparently cured, I have entered in the report each re-admission as a fresh case.

16. The mortality during the year was small, particularly if we take into consideration the class of patients brought into hospital—the poorest of the poor, ill-fed, badly clothed, and a mass of filth and dirt. Three deaths occurred in males from exhaustive diarrhœa, giving a per-centage of 0·79 on the total number of cases treated.

17. The total number of days occupied by all the patients was 31,502. The average stay in days of each patient was 83·78, and the daily average in hospital during the year was 85.

18. The gross expenditure for the maintenance of the 376 patients treated during the year was 960*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*, made up as follows: Servants' wages, 54*l.*; provision for maintenance, 821*l.* 4*s.* 5*d.*; beds, clothing, and petty supplies 85*l.* 2*s.* 3*d.* The cost for maintenance of each inmate was $7\frac{3}{4}d.$ per day.

19. The general sanitary condition of the hospital has been most satisfactory.

St. John's District Hospital.

The administration of this hospital is vested in the hands of Dr. Latour, the medical officer of the district.

2. The staff consists of a dispenser, a nurse, a cook, and a messenger.

3. The hospital is well conducted, and on inspection has always been found clean and orderly and the patients cheerful and contented.

4. On the 1st January 1883 there remained in the hospital 10 patients, of whom seven were males and three females. During the year 63 cases were admitted, of whom 35 were males and 28 females, making a total of 73 patients treated during the year.

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5. Three deaths were registered during the year, two males and one female, giving a per-centage of 4·1 on the total number of cases treated.

6. The gross expenditure for the maintenance of the 73 patients was 219*l.* 5*s.* 3*d.*, made up as follows: Servants' wages, 45*l.* 1*s.* 7*d.*; provision for maintenance, 155*l.* 17*s.* 8*d.*; beds, clothing, and petty supplies, 18*l.* 6*s.*

7. The general sanitary condition of the hospital has been most satisfactory.

St. Andrew's District Hospital.

This hospital is under the superintendence of Dr. Lang, the medical officer of the district.

2. The staff consists of a dispenser, a nurse, and a cook.

3. The building requires painting throughout. The painted floors are looking shabby and dirty, and require scraping and waxing. The patients are well cared for, and on the whole the hospital is better looked after than it was last year.

4. On the 1st January 1883, there remained in the hospital 10 patients, of whom seven were males and three females. During the year 73 were admitted, of whom 55 were males and 18 females, making a total of 83 patients treated during the year.

5. Four deaths were registered during the year, all males, two from heart disease, one from consumption, and one from aneurism of the aorta. The per-centage was 4·81 on the total number of cases treated.

6. The gross expenditure for the maintenance of 83 patients was 329*l.* 13*s.* 1*d.* made up as follows: Servants wages, 45*l.* 12*s.*; provision for maintenance, 266*l.* 8*s.* 6*d.*; beds, clothing, and petty supplies, 17*l.* 12*s.* 7*d.*

7. The general sanitary condition of the hospital has been very satisfactory.

Saint Patrick's District Hospital.

This hospital was only opened during the year for 3 months and 23 days. It was considered by the Governor-in-Chief unnecessary to keep it open any longer than that time, as the expense was very great. Instruction was given to close it on the 23rd of April, the day on which the indentures of the coolie immigrants of the district expired.

3. Dr. Cantin was the medical officer in charge when the hospital was closed. He was subsequently removed from the district and Dr. Bennett appointed in his place.

3. The report on the hospital is furnished by Dr. Bennett, as Dr. Cantin was too ill at the time to attend to any kind of duty.

4. Seventeen patients were treated at the hospital during the time it was opened, 12 males and five females. Two deaths

occurred, one from heart disease, and one from epilepsy. The per-centage was 11 · 76 on the number of cases treated.

5. The expenditure for the time was 31*l.* 3*s.* 6*d.*

In conclusion, I must apologize to his Honour the Administrator for not sending my report on the charitable institutions of the Colony at an earlier date. I must plead as my excuse the arduous nature of the duties I have had to perform, both public and private.

I have, &c.

The Hon. (Signed) PAULINE ORGIAS,
The Colonial Secretary. Colonial Surgeon.

REPORT by DR. MACLEOD on LUNATIC ASYLUM, &c

Lunatic Asylum,
SIR, February 11, 1884

I HAVE the honour to submit the following report of the general condition of the institution, under my superintendence at Richmond Hill during the year 1883.

Lunatic Asylum.

On the 1st of January there were 59 patients in the asylum, 29 males and 23 females, and when the year closed we numbered 73, the daily average being 71. There were 34 admissions, of whom two males and 15 females were from the Island of St. Vincent, one male and four females from the Island of Tobago, and eight males and four females from this Colony.

Four of the cases, two males and two females admitted, were re-admissions, of whom one male had been discharged for three years and two months, the other for one year and four months; a recurrence of the disease in his case being induced by his highly intemperate habits.

One of the females had been discharged for three years and three months, the other for one year and one month.

The total number of patients under treatment during the year was therefore 94, including eight lepers, who are dieted from the asylum.

Three deaths were recorded, two on the male and one on the female side.

The recoveries have been at the rate of 10 · 6 per cent. on the total number under treatment, and 29 · 4 on the admissions.

Discharges.

Ten patients left the asylum during the year, four males and six females, two of whom were from the Island of St. Vincent, one from St. Lucia, the remaining seven from this Island.

The per-centage of recoveries if taken over a period of three years compare favourably with results attained in other Colonial

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asylums, and this in a great measure I attribute to the dietetic and hygienic influence, which, as compared with the mode of living in their homes, surround patients on their arrival here.

Of the 10 recoveries, their mental health seemed to be completely restored before leaving.

The system of discharging patients on probation is adopted in this asylum; a system that cannot be too highly recommended in small institutions, where there are no detached blocks of buildings to shelter the recovering maniac from the influence of his excited and turbulent fellow inmates.

Deaths.

Three deaths occurred during the year, being two less than in the previous one, although we had a much larger number under treatment, thus giving a per-centage of 3·1 on the total number under treatment and 8·8 on the admissions.

Reference to the obituary table* will show that two deaths may be referred to causes so to speak unpreventable, thus one being from phthisis and one from heart disease, the third from bilious pneumonia, after a few days' illness.

An inquest was held on each, and the actual cause of death verified by a post-mortem examination.

General Remarks.

During the year repairs were made to the buildings, which added much to the comfort of the inmates.

The erecting of a day room on the female side, which not only gave additional accommodation in the female dormitory, but affording the imates a place of shelter from the inclemency of the weather, as well as supplying the want of a general dining room, has proved to be an admirable acquisition.

I hope soon to see a similar one erected on the male side, where it would be equally advantageous, and I may say a necessity.

We have been this year particularly free from any casualty or accident, there being only two recorded worthy of note, a severe bite received by a female, and an attempt by a melancholic epileptic to commit suicide by jumping over the wall, but fortunately receiving no injury.

This freedom from accident in an asylum where all the inmates of a sex are mingling together in a small airing court, must be regarded as fortunate and reflects credit upon the supervision.

Mechanical restraint and seclusions under lock and key are steadily diminishing, but I fear I shall never be able to report with regard to this asylum as some of my confrères holding similar appointments, that such is unknown, except where surgical restraint is necessary: no, our present arrangements will not admit of such a triumph.

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* Not printed.

I am unable this year to show much labour performed by the inmates, the loss of our willing workers and the extra supervision required in sending patients with dangerous implements beyond the precincts of the asylum prevented our undertaking any cultivation that would be profitable.

The females were principally engaged in making and repairing clothes as well as doing the greater bulk of the washing.

The staff has, on the whole, worked satisfactorily, nor have any changes of importance been made during the year. One additional female attendant was employed on the arrival of the St. Vincent lunatics. The supply of stores has not been quite so satisfactory, although the articles have been as a rule fairly good; the delivery has been irregular and unpunctual, so that the steward has had on many occasions to lodge complaints against the contractor.

The asylum was frequently visited by his Honour the Administrator, the visit being nearly always one of surprise, inspections generally complete but no minute made in the visiting book.

Our expenditure for the year including clothing, servants, &c., amounted to 1,401*l.* 15*s.* 7*d.*, or 19*l.* 14*s.* 10½*d.* per annum on average number under treatment.

Poor House.

There remained in this institution on the 1st day of January 1883 50 inmates, 26 males and 24 females.

Admitted during the year 18, 11 males and seven females.

Remaining on 31st December 1883, 49, 25 males and 24 females.

The deaths were a total of 12, seven males and five females, one less than the previous year. Two of the deaths, one from cancer, one from diarrhœa, were of the number admitted this year. The other cases were old residents sinking from the disease attendant on senile decay.

The admissions this year were less by six, and I have no doubt if the same precaution continues to be exercised in admitting cases that in future we will have only the really poor and destitute as patients.

Hitherto the institution seemed to have been regarded by many as a shelter to which they could resort to, to tide over a trivial illness or some want of aliment and leave at their pleasure.

Seven were discharged, three of whom were lepers transferred to the small building occupied by the female lepers, this building having become vacant by the death of three of its occupants, and the absconding of the fourth, encouraged to do so by some of his relatives.

Four left, considering themselves sufficiently well to earn a livelihood, but I fear that at some future time we may expect them to be applicants for re-admission. The strain of a little discipline seems to be regarded as punishment by many of the

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class we receive as patients, and this is a frequent cause of their leaving, although not admitted.

It is almost unnecessary for me to state that apart from sweeping the wards and around the buildings, no labour of consequence was performed, our subjects being too feeble a class.

In this institution our total expenditure for the year amounted to 614*l.* 8*s.* 7*d.* or 14*l.* 6*s.* 11¾*d.* per annum on the average number under treatment.

Leper Asylum.

We had of this class on the 1st of January 1883 under care and treatment eight in all. Four females occupied beds in the leper asylum proper, three of whom died and one absconded. Four males were resident in the poorhouse, of whom one died.

Admitted for the year one male.

Remaining on the 31st December four males.

This excessive mortality among so few I can only attribute to their age, length of time they had suffered from the disease, and its rapid extension to vital organs.

I still encourage them in the use of the Gurjon oil, not that I have any faith in its curative properties, an opinion I am supported in by many who have had a much larger experience in its use as a therapeutic agent than I have had, but for the want of something better.

I have, &c.
(Signed) P. F. MACLEOD,
Medical Officer.

TOBAGO.

TOBAGO.

No. 10.

Administrator H. R. BROWNE to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY.

Barbados, September 1, 1884.
Forwarded.
(Signed) H. R. BROWNE.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Derby,
&c. &c.

Government Office, Tobago,
August 7, 1884.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit the following Report on the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1883.

2. The Blue Book itself is in the hands of the Government printer, and will, I trust, be forwarded at an early date.

3. The value of this Report will be to some extent affected by the circumstance that I did not arrive in the Colony and assume the administration of the Government until the 1st May 1883.

Taxes, Duties, Fees, &c.

4. Some inconsiderable changes were introduced into the fiscal system during the year. By the Liquor License Ordinance, 1883, alterations were effected in the principles on which licenses for the sale of intoxicating liquor are issued, and in the rates payable for them. The result of this legislation was to reduce the number of licenses taken out from 36 in 1882 to 13 in 1883, and on the other hand to increase the receipts on this account from 184*l.* 10*s.* in the former to 342*l.* 13*s.* in the latter year. The principal change made by the License Ordinance, 1883, which consolidates into one enactment the various statutory provisions relating to the licensing of horses, mules, asses, guns, boats, and dogs, was the increase of the license payable for a stallion from 25*s.* to 40*s.* In consequence, however, of the lateness of the period at which this Ordinance became law, its operation was subsequently suspended during the year 1883.

5. All other sources of revenue remained untouched.

Revenue and Expenditure.

6. The total revenue for the year was 14,175*l.* 9*s.* 11*d.*, while the total expenditure amounted to 15,509*l.* 0*s.* 2*d.* The large apparent deficit which results from a comparison of these figures will be explained under the heading of *Expenditure*, and it will there be seen that the net expenditure for 1883 was 14,223*l.* 9*s.* 8*d.* and consequently the real excess of disbursements over receipts was only 47*l.* 19*s.* 9*d.*

7. The following table presents a comparative statement of the revenue and expenditure during the last five years :—

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1879 - - - -	11,500 17 4	12,095 11 10½
1880 - - - -	14,003 2 2½	11,769 11 6½
1881 - - - -	16,830 8 2	14,483 10 3
1882 - - - -	13,661 7 11	12,610 1 10
1883 - - - -	14,175 9 11	14,223 9 8

8. It would appear from these figures that the revenue remains fairly constant from year to year, and does not afford indications of any process of expansion taking place. The comparatively large receipts of 1881 are attributable to the unusually good sugar crop of that year, with the favourable prices for the staple export of the Island which then prevailed.

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9. *Revenue.*—The estimated receipts for the year were 15,935*l.*, so that the actual takings at the Treasury fell short of the estimate by so considerable a sum as 1,759*l.* 10*s.* 1*d.* This deficit principally occurred under the head of customs dues, which failed to reach the estimated receipts by 1,508*l.* 17*s.* 5*d.*, a failure which was the natural result of a moderate sugar production, attended with low prices. There is, perhaps, no other Colony in which so intimate a relation exists between agriculture and the general welfare, or where the condition of the former so inevitably acts upon that of the latter.

10. The following table indicates the principal sources of revenue during the last five years :—

Source.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Customs - -	5,834 2 6	7,056 2 5½	9,374 7 10½	6,544 0 5½	6,531 2 7
Excise - -	1,261 14 8	1,741 9 0½	1,777 2 9	1,891 13 7	2,003 9 1½
Licenses - -	1,336 9 7	1,580 11 3	1,561 11 8	1,474 17 6	1,432 18 0
Taxes - - -	2,093 5 4	2,769 7 3	2,954 14 3	2,680 2 4	2,770 3 7
Postage - - -	—	—	238 1 3½	196 18 7	215 5 11
Miscellaneous - -	975 5 3	855 12 2½	924 10 4	873 15 5½	1,222 10 8½
Total - -	11,500 17 4	14,003 2 2½	16,830 8 2	13,661 7 11	14,175 9 11

11. There can be little doubt that the revenue suffered in some respects from more or less insufficient and incomplete methods of collection, and this is especially the case with regard to excise duty on rum, licenses on animals, and land and house tax.

12. *Expenditure.*—The sum of 15,713*l.* 0*s.* 8*d.* was appropriated in the estimates for the service of the year, but the actual disbursements altogether only amounted to 15,509*l.* 0*s.* 2*d.* and, as has been already indicated above, this sum is considerably in excess of the net expenditure of the year, since, under the new system of accounting which has been adopted in the present year (1884), and by which all payments made on account of the service of any year are charged against that year, although they may not actually have been made until after its expiry, it includes both the charges paid in the early part of 1883 on account of the service of 1882, and also the charges paid in the early portion of 1884 on account of the service of 1883. If the former of these two amounts, viz., 1,285*l.* 10*s.* 6*d.*, be deducted from the gross sum, it becomes apparent that the expenditure proper to the year under review is represented by the sum of 14,223*l.* 9*s.* 8*d.*

13. The expenditure for the year was of an ordinary character, and none of the items of it call for any special remark. In a small Colony like Tobago where an inconsiderable revenue is raised, the financial service of one year does not in general differ to any material extent from that of another year, the principal objects of expenditure being in each case well defined and constant.

14. The subjoined table exhibits under its main heads the expenditure of the five years ending with 1883:—

Head.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882	1883.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Civil Departments -	1,904 16 3	2,305 16 3½	2,475 18 1	2,325 13 7	2,559 11 8
Judicial - -	2,014 5 3	1,958 17 10	1,837 4 4	1,570 1 4	1,851 3 3
Medical - - -	491 13 4	471 13 4	519 13 0	624 7 1	1,092 10 0
Ecclesiastical - -	1,060 0 0	1,060 0 0	1,060 0 0	971 13 4	1,060 0 0
Education - -	688 3 2	550 0 0	580 18 2	546 6 10	600 0 0
Police - - -	1,797 7 2	1,485 19 11	1,522 15 9	1,459 2 7	1,680 7 3
Prison - - -	745 5 2	634 8 6	600 9 8	616 6 2	645 18 9
Hospital and Asylum -	749 13 10	797 3 3	807 17 7	1,048 13 10½	1,230 16 3
Postal - - -	285 10 8	183 13 4½	186 8 8	89 15 7	201 3 3
Works and buildings -	469 9 6	584 3 6	385 14 9	723 0 2½	679 17 2
Roads and bridges -	684 15 7	803 9 6	1,042 14 0	1,181 13 2½	1,215 8 11
Miscellaneous - -	1,098 11 11½	739 6 0½	1,167 5 1	1,453 8 0½	1,406 13 2
Special charges -	106 0 0	195 0 0	2,296 11 2	—	—
Total - -	12,095 11 10½	11,769 11 6½	14,483 10 3	12,610 1 10	14,223 9 8

15. The following statement shows the financial position of the Colony on the first January 1884:—

Assets.	£ s. d.	Liabilities.	£ s. d.
Cash balance on 31st December 1883 -	1,927 10 9	Due for salaries of fixed establishments for December 1883 - -	574 13 1
Balance in hands of Crown Agents on 31st December 1883 -	106 13 9	Due for services, exclusive of establishments, say - - -	547 10 10
Amount remitted to them on 20th November 1883	300 0 0	Due on warrants drawn but not paid - -	75 4 3
		Due for estimated payments to be made by the Crown Agents, say -	280 0 0
		Surplus of assets -	856 16 4
	2,334 4 6		2,334 4 6

Local Revenue.

16. There are no local or municipal revenues of any kind raised in the Colony.

Public Debt.

17. There has been no public debt since the year 1881.

Military Expenditure.

18. The only expenditure under this head which was incurred by the Local Government during the year was in the support of two small rifle volunteer corps, named respectively the Scarborough Rifle Volunteer Corps and the Windward Rifle Volunteer Corps. Each corps is composed of one company, and the sum spent in 1883 in the maintenance of both corps was 125*l.* 3*s.* 2*d.* They are both armed with the Snider regulation rifle, but their dress and equipments, which are furnished by the Government, at present leave much to be desired. In the case of one of the corps much difficulty is experienced in securing a full and regular attendance of members at parades.

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19. The operation of the Local Militia Acts has been suspended for many years, and they may now be regarded as being practically obsolete.

20. No expenditure was incurred by the Imperial Government during the year for the military protection or in aid of the civil establishment of the Colony.

Public Works.

21. In this department no works of importance were undertaken during the year under review. A special vote of 100*l.* was passed by the Legislative Council in the middle of the year for the purpose of effecting certain repairs and improvements at the colonial hospital. This vote was exceeded by 14*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*, but the result of the expenditure was a considerable improvement in the appearance and condition of that institution. It is to be hoped that the finances of the Colony will admit of other additions and improvements, which are still much required, being carried out at no distant date.

22. The alterations and repairs of the building called the Old Gaol in Scarborough were completed, and a fairly convenient Police and Petty Debt Court Room was thus provided for the use of the Leeward District.

23. The Roxborough Police Station and Court House, which was in a dilapidated condition, was much improved by the substitution of brick instead of wood as the material of the lower storey, by the erection of a wooden paling or enclosure around it, and by the making of other additions and repairs.

24. It cannot be said that the Public Works Department is in a satisfactory condition. Since the year 1881 there has been no superintendent of public works or other officer with similar duties borne on the civil establishment of the Colony. Partly owing to this want of a responsible government officer in charge of the department, and partly also, no doubt, to the want of funds available for the purpose, the various public works and buildings have been more or less neglected for some years, with the natural consequence that most of them now call for the expenditure of large sums of money if they are to be placed in good and sound condition. The wharfage accommodation at Scarborough, the sole port of entry, is inadequate; the jetty is too small, and is, besides, in a condition which renders it unsightly and almost unsafe; the warehouses and other buildings on the wharf stand in need of repairs; the court house, or general Government building, requires extensive repairs and alterations, the Market Place is perfectly open to the sun and the rain; Government House is in many respects in a dilapidated and unseemly state; the roof of the gaol is in a very defective condition; the hospital calls for further expenditure to adapt it thoroughly to the purposes which it is intended to serve; and other public buildings require repairs of a less extensive kind. It is not at all probable that these various services, involving in the aggregate a large expenditure, can be undertaken with the resources of the annual revenue, which

only suffices to meet the ordinary requirements of the year; but, on the other hand, it is certain that, with each additional year's neglect, the limit of expenditure which will be required in respect of the services is extended.

25. In April Captain A. C. Alexander, R.E., was commissioned by the Local Government to report on the practicability of bringing water to Scarborough from one of the streams lying to the eastward of the town. From the interesting report which he subsequently presented, it appeared that a good and adequate supply of water could be obtained without difficulty from the upper part of the East Hillsborough River, called also the Greenhill River, distant about seven miles from Scarborough, for an approximate expenditure of 9,207*l.* 7*s.* 4*d.* For financial reasons, however, no further steps have been taken in connexion with the project, and if even this obstacle had not presented itself, it may be questioned whether such an undertaking, desirable as it is in itself, should not be postponed to others of more general interest to the community, *e.g.*, the establishment of external telegraphic communication, the provision of better harbour and wharf accommodation, the opening of disused and the construction of new roads, the extension and improvement of the educational system, &c.

26. The sum voted for the maintenance of the roads was 1,200*l.* and the amount expended was 1,215*l.* 8*s.* 11*d.*, including 225*l.* for the pay of the district superintendents and for the upkeep of the Government cart and mules. It is matter for surprise that with so small an actual expenditure as 895*l.* 14*s.* 4*d.* the roads, which are probably about 80 miles in length, should be kept in such fairly good and workable condition as they for the most part present. They are in charge of district commissioners, who perform their duties voluntarily, with the aid of superintendents who receive a small annual salary. This system works fairly wel on the whole, some of the commissioners showing considerable interest in their work; but I am strongly of opinion that it would be in a high degree advantageous that they should be assisted and supervised in their operations by a central controlling authority, such as would be furnished by an experienced foreman of works. Still I believe the Colony compares favourably in respect of its roads with all the other islands of the Windward group, with the exception of Barbados.

27. The question of the appointment of a foreman of works was under consideration during the year, and it is to be hoped that in the interest of the Public Works Department it will be brought to a satisfactory settlement without any long delay.

Legislation.

28. The actual legislation of the year was neither considerable in amount nor important in character, but towards its close the Supreme Court Ordinance, 1884, and the code of civil procedure were under consideration in the legislative council, and were in

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great part passed through committee. Eight Ordinances were passed into law, of which the following deserve mention :—

No. 1.—An Ordinance to consolidate and amend the laws regulating the issue of licenses for the sale of intoxicating liquor. [2nd January 1883.]

This Ordinance repeals the two existing Ordinances relating to the sale of intoxicating liquors under license, viz., No. 9 of 1878 and No. 3 of 1880, and embodies their provisions, with amendments, in one law.

Licenses are divided into three classes, viz., (1) "Wholesale," which enables the licensee to sell intoxicating liquor (except rum) in any quantity not less than two gallons or one dozen reputed quarts, and rum in any quantity not less than 20 gallons to be delivered at one and the same time; (2) "General," which enables the licensee to sell intoxicating liquor in any quantity whatever ; and (3) "Special," which is intended for races, &c., and which is granted by the Governor in Council for such time and place and under such conditions as he may think proper.

The sum payable for a wholesale license is 5*l.*, and for a general license 10*l.* but if either of such licenses is taken out in the second half of the year by a person who has not held a license during the first half, the sums payable are 7*l.* 10*s.* and 12*l.* 10*s.* respectively. Licenses of the first two classes expire on the 30th June and the 31st December in each year.

No 3. An Ordinance to consolidate and amend the laws relating to licenses for keeping horses, mules, asses, guns, boats, and dogs. [2nd February, 1883.]

By this Ordinance the existing laws relating (1) to licenses for keeping horses, mules, asses, guns, and boats, No. 2 of 1877 ; and (2) to licenses for keeping dogs, No. 15 of 1879, are repealed and their provisions consolidated into one enactment.

The principal alteration affected by the Ordinance consists in the increase of the license duty for a stallion from 1*l.* 5*s.* to 2*l.*

No. 8. An Ordinance to consolidate and amend the law regulating the execution of deeds by married women and deeds to operate as fines and recoveries. [22nd September, 1883.]

Certain errors and defects having been discovered in the Fines and Recoveries Ordinance 1879, this Ordinance was passed for the purpose of repealing it, and re-enacting its provisions with the necessary amendments. The local law on this subject has been thus brought into accord with the law of England.

Councils.

29. Mr. W. Monnington, Acting Attorney-General, was a member of both the Legislative and Executive Councils until the 3rd March, when Mr. A. Lewis, the Attorney-General, resumed his duties.

30. Changes were also occasioned in both councils by the departure of Mr. E. Laborde, C.M.G., and Mr. A. Lewis, and the appointment of myself and Mr. S. J. Fraser to act in their respective offices, as noted under the head of Civil Establishment.

31. On the 31st January, Mr. J. Kirk, Inspector of Police and of Inland Revenue officers, was appointed by the Queen to be a member of the Executive Council.

Civil Establishment.

32. Various changes took place during the year in the holders of offices in the public service. On the 23rd April his Honour E. Laborde, C.M.G., Administrator and Colonial Secretary, left the Colony to assume the administration of the Government of Grenada. Mr. A. Lewis, the Attorney-General, conducted the administration, as senior member of the Executive Council, until the 1st May, when I arrived and was sworn in as Acting Administrator and Colonial Secretary.

33. At the sittings of the Superior Courts in January–February Mr. W. H. H. Jones LL. B., Barrister-at-Law, and, Police Magistrate of St. Lucia, acted as Chief Justice in my place, as I was at that time engaged on special service as Acting Colonial Secretary of Grenada. At the sittings in May and in September–October, Mr. J. C. Choppin, Barrister-at-Law, and Attorney-General, and Police Magistrate of St Vincent, presided.

34. Mr. W. Mornington, Barrister-at-Law and Police Magistrate of Barbados, acted as Attorney-General until the 3rd March, when Mr. A. Lewis, the Attorney-General, resumed his duties. Mr. Lewis, however, left the Colony on the 7th October to take up the appointment of Judge of the Bridgetown Petty Debt Court, Barbados, Mr. S. J. Fraser, Police Magistrate and Coroner of the Windward District, was on the 15th October appointed to act as Attorney-General, and on the same date Mr. H. H. Sealy, Confidential Clerk and Clerk of the Councils, was appointed Acting Police Magistrate and Coroner of the Windward District, and Mr. G. C. M. Sealy was appointed to act as confidential clerk and Clerk of the Councils.

35. The appointment of a provisional second clerk in the Administrator and Colonial Secretary's Department was approved by the Secretary of State, and the office was held from the 3rd to the 15th October by Mr. G. C. M. Sealy, and from the latter date onwards by Mr. Q. H. Spicer, junior clerk in the Audit and Registry Department. Mr. Spicer's vacant place was filled by the provisional appointment of Mr. I. A. W. Ward.

36. Mr. S. T. W. Charity was, on the 2nd April, appointed to be Registrar of No. 4 District, in the room of Mr. B. P. W. Charity, deceased.

37. On the 20th November Mr. J. H. Poll was nominated by the Colonial Surgeon, with the approval of the Administrator, to

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be Superintendent of the hospital and asylum, in the place of Mr. T. C. Edwards, deceased.

38. Several officers were on leave of absence during the year for periods varying in length, and their places were supplied by acting appointments.

39. The fees received by public officers in the course of the year amounted to 1,112*l.* 1*s.* 9*d.*, of which sum the greater portion was paid into the treasury for the public use.

Pensions.

40. There was no change in the pension list during the year, the only pensioner being Mr. H. L. Byng, late Colonial Secretary, Auditor, &c., who received 73*l.* 17*s.* 4*d.* as compensation on abolition of office.

41. The total cost of the fixed establishments was as follows:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Civil establishment - -	3,652	1	8
Judicial establishment -	1,626	9	0
Ecclesiastical establishment -	1,060	0	0
Pension - - -	73	17	4
	6,412	8	0
Contingent and miscellaneous expenditure - -	7,763	1	11
Total - -	14,175	9	11

Vital Statistics.

42. According to my report for the year as Acting Registrar-General, the population of the Colony on the 31st December 1883 was 18,879 persons, as compared with 18,051 persons given by the census returns in 1881.

43. During the year 776 births, 112 marriages, and 365 deaths were registered. The birth rate per 1,000 was 41·10, or an increase of 3·02 as compared with the preceding year, and the death rate 19·3, or a decrease of 2·46 as compared with the rate in 1882.

44. The cost of working the Vaccination Ordinance, 1882 was so much greater than was anticipated that it was found necessary to suspend its operation during a portion of the year. It may now be said, however, to have been fairly tried, and no doubt valuable results will follow from its working.

45. The health of the population was generally good during the year. There can be no doubt that this Island is, notwithstanding statements to the contrary which are occasionally met with, a place where any person may, with moderate prudence, enjoy good health from one year to another. There is, no doubt, a liability

on the part of a new comer to attacks of local or Colony fever, but these are usually slight and rarely prove fatal; and it should be added that this liability obtains in most of the other West Indian Colonies. On the other hand, this Island is singularly free from the epidemic diseases which occasionally visit those colonies, and during the present generation there has been no epidemic of cholera, small-pox, or yellow fever. Its greatest breadth being not more than 7½ miles in any part, the Island lies open on all sides to the sea breezes, which pleasantly temper the heat of the atmosphere.

Savings Bank, &c.

46. There was a privately conducted savings bank in Scarborough during a portion of the year, but it is now closed. It is to be regretted that the efforts which have been made for the establishment of a Government Savings Bank have not so far been successful, but the subject is still under consideration, and it is much to be desired that the early establishment of such an institution should afford to the lower classes facilities which at present they lack for cultivating habits of saving and thrift.

47. There are one or two friendly or benefit societies in Scarborough, and I believe that one or two similar societies may be found in the rural districts, but the system of co-operation in this respect is not as firmly or generally established in the Colony as the friends of the artizan and labouring classes could wish.

Ecclesiastical.

48. The principle of concurrent endowment in proportion to the numbers of the respective denominations remained in force during the year. The grant of 1,060*l.* is divided among the three aided denominations in the following proportions:—

	£
The Anglican Church - - -	552
The Moravians - - -	272
The Wesleyans - - -	236

49. In order to entitle them to the full amount of these respective grants, these denominations are required to maintain ministers of religion as follows:—

The Anglican Church - - -	3
The Moravians - - -	2
The Wesleyans - - -	2

50. There are 23 churches, chapels, and places of religious worship of all kinds belonging to the three above-mentioned denominations in the Island.

Education.

51. The following table shows the number of elementary schools maintained by the three denominations, the number of

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children taught in them, and the amount of Government grants earned by them for the last three years :—

Denomination.	1881.			1882.			1883.		
	No. of Schools.	No. of Scholars.	Government Grant.	No. of Schools.	No. of Scholars.	Government Grant.	No. of Schools.	No. of Scholars.	Government Grant.
			£ s. d.			£ s. d.			£ s. d.
Anglican -	9	937	192 8 0	9	854	212 10 11	9	824	239 4 0
Moravian -	6	616	158 5 4	5	734	153 14 7	6	733	141 0 0
Wesleyan -	6	584	53 4 8	6	550	175 18 0	6	605	169 16 0
Total -	—	2,317	503 18 0	20	2,138	542 3 6	21	2,162	550 0 0

52. A careful examination of this comparative statement will show, first, that the educational system is purely denominational, there being no Government schools, properly so called, but only schools established and conducted by the principal religious denominations and receiving aid from the Treasury under the regulations framed by the Board of Education and approved by the Governor-in-Council, secondly; that the total number of schools and of children attending in them has remained practically without variation during the three years comprised in the table; and, thirdly, that the amount of the Government grant earned by the schools has only increased to a slight extent during the same period. In explanation, however, of this last fact, it is proper to mention that for the last year or two the sum voted for education has been fixed, and the schools have not received the sums earned beyond that amount.

53. In addition to the Government grant, the schools of the several denominations derived income of the following amounts from school fees and other sources :—Anglican, 188*l.* 13*s.* 7½*d.*; Moravian, 105*l.* 15*s.*; and Wesleyan, 127*l.* 1*s.* 10½*d.*; or a total of 521*l.* 10*s.* 6*d.*

54. Having a full belief in the benefits of education for the people, I have taken care to visit most of the schools, and to examine the pupils in them. In most cases the children are orderly and attentive, and neat and clean in their dress and person. In some schools they also showed considerable intelligence, and it was plain that they had been carefully taught. Of the 13 or 14 schools which I have visited the Moravian schools at Moriah and Montgomery, primary aud infant in each case, the Wesleyan school in Scarborough, and the Anglican school at St. Mary's impressed me most favourably. As may easily be understood in the case of schools conducted on denominational principles, where the minister in charge is zealous and diligent the school is efficiently conducted, while on the contrary where he is supine and indifferent the scholars are ill-taught, and the building is in a neglected condition.

55. While the educational system may be said to yield fair results for the moderate amount of public money devoted to its maintenance, yet it will hardly be denied that it is capable of considerable expansion and improvement. There is a want of uniformity and of scientific method, and there is, above all, an absence of constant and regular inspection by a trained and responsible inspector. The present inspector, who is now Acting Attorney-General, has had no special training in this department, and his appointment some years ago was only provisional. He is, besides, occupied in the performance of his other duties, and as inspector he only receives the small stipend of 50*l.* per annum. The consequence is, there is no paying of surprise visits, and no regular inspection during the year, but an annual examination is conducted by the inspector, who reports the results to the Board of Education.

56. Other points to which attention may usefully be directed are (1) the necessity of holding annual certificate examinations for masters and mistresses; (2) the need for a small State-aided second grade or middle-class school, where the sons of the upper and middle class may receive a sound education in the subjects usually taught in a school of that type, an education which at present they are unable to procure in the Island; and (3) the desirability of settling the entire educational system of the Colony by a well considered legislative enactment.

57. On these and other subjects connected with education I have been in correspondence with the Board of Education and with his Excellency the Governor-in-Chief, and I trust that ere long an opportunity will be afforded of effecting improvements in this most important department of the social system. I take leave to annex a copy* of the correspondence above referred to, and also a copy of a memorandum* which I prepared for his Excellency the Governor-in-Chief with respect to the educational proposals of the Royal Commissioners.

Imports and Exports.

58. The total value of the imports for the year was 47,003*l.* 9*s.* 5*d.*, exhibiting an increase of less than 100*l.* as compared with the value in 1882, and a decrease of more than 12,000*l.* as compared with that of 1881, which was an exceptionally prosperous year. Of this total value, the imports from the United Kingdom represent 25,038*l.* 19*s.* 9*d.*, those from British Colonies, 21,631*l.* 12*s.* 8*d.*, and those from foreign countries, 332*l.* 17*s.* The apparently large volume of imports from Brirish Colonies is explained by the fact that by far the greater portion of the food stuffs, such as salted fish and meat, flour, corn meal, biscuits, &c., drawn from the United States for local consumption, passes through Barbados, which serves to a considerable but diminishing extent as an entrepôt for this and other neighbouring Islands.

59. The exports for the year are represented in total value by the sum of 48,036*l.* 19*s.* 1*d.*, which is about 200*l.* less than the

* Not printed.

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value in the preceding year and about 35,000*l.* less than in 1881. The exports were distributed in value as follows:—the United Kingdom, 37,089*l.* 10*s.* 6*d.*; British Colonies, 5,173*l.* 1*s.* 1*d.*; and foreign countries, 5,774*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*

60 The following table exhibits the values in pounds sterling of imported and exported goods, during the last five years, together with the names of the countries from which they were brought or to which they were sent.

Year.	Imports.				Exports.			
	United Kingdom.	British West Indies.	Foreign Countries.	Totals.	United Kingdom.	British West Indies.	Foreign Countries.	Totals.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1879 -	11,090	26,257	12	37,359	64,208	6,047	200	70,455
1880 -	6,529	38,462	147	45,138	71,459	5,871	285	77,615
1881 -	33,051	26,205	325	59,582	76,253	6,934	396	83,583
1882 -	24,375	22,531	20	46,927	41,993	5,742	450	48,186
1883 -	25,038	21,631	332	47,001	37,089	5,173	5,774	48,036

61. The principal articles imported from the United Kingdom are linens, cottons, and other wearing apparel, machinery, and malt liquors, rice, butter, and tinned provisions, and miscellaneous goods. The character of the imports from the United States has been already indicated in para. 58.

62. It will be observed from this table that in 1883 a large increase took place in the value of the goods exported to foreign countries. This increase is accounted for by unusually heavy shipments of sugar having been made to the United States.

63. The nature and quantity of the principal exports during the last five years may be gathered from the subjoined table:—

Year.	Horned Cattle.	Cocoa.	Cocoanuts.	Fowls.	Goats.	Horses.	Lime Juice.	Logwood.	Molasses.	Pigs.	Rum.	Sheep.	Hides.	Sugar.	Wood, fuel.
	Heads.	Bags.	No.	Dozens.	No.	No.	Puns.	Tons.	Puns.	No.	Puns.	No.	No.	Cwts.	Cords.
1879 -	243	11	598,737	72	497	27	15	131	793	64	279	53	91	64,871	376
1880 -	211	33	703,761	220	608	43	17	20	741	165	254	33	111	66,516	456
1881 -	110	14	893,041	185	274	13	11	31	969	139	214	4	200	72,555	149
1882 -	131	60	813,545	216	355	19	31	18	657	138	204	28	156	50,358	561
1883 -	131	40	720,609	148	273	29	14	13	887	72	100	14	192	50,853½	500
Total -	826	158	3,729,693	841	2,007	131	88	213	4,047	578	1,051	132	750	305,153½	2,042
Average -	165	31	545,938	168	401	26	17	42	809	115	214	26	150	61·30	405

Shipping.

64. The following table shows the number of steam and sailing vessels entered and cleared at the port of Scarborough in the last three years:—

Year.	Entered.						Cleared.					
	Steam Vessels.			Sailing Vessels.			Steam Vessels.			Sailing Vessels.		
	No.	Tons.	Crews.	No.	Tons.	Crews.	No.	Tons.	Crews.	No.	Tons.	Crews.
1881 -	18	1,134	166	127	6,654	613	18	1,134	170	128	6,595	641
1882 -	38	21,306	1,718	113	5,531	529	35	18,136	1,590	108	5,541	526
1883 -	48	53,584	2,085	103	5,776	489	34	34,525	1,069	86	5,091	431
Total -	104	76,024	3,969	343	17,961	1,631	87	53,795	2,829	325	17,227	1,598
Average	34	25,341	1,323	114	5,987	543	29	17,931	943	108	5,742	532

65. The large increase in steam tonnage during the last two years is caused by the entry in the shipping returns for the first time in 1882 of the Royal Mail Steamers, and by the visits to the port of the vessels of the direct line of steamers—Messrs. Scrutton Sons & Co., 9, Gracechurch Street, London, E.C., and of those of Hoult's line of steamers, Mr. Joseph Hoult, Liverpool. Much of the import trade from the United Kingdom which formerly passed through Barbados is now carried on by the vessels of these two lines. Towards the close of the year arrangements were almost completed for the calling at Scarborough of the Atlantic line of American steamers. These arrangements were perfected in the early part of the present year, and the result will probably be the establishment of a considerable commercial intercourse between this Colony and the United States.

Agriculture.

66. There are no improvements in agriculture to record. A large portion of the cane cultivation is conducted on the metayer system, and although this form of co-operative production is regarded by many persons as capable of much improvement, I believe its working is not attended with any serious friction.

67. At the close of the year the recently constituted Tobago Agricultural Society held their first show of live stock and agricultural produce in Scarborough. The exhibition was well attended, and there was a fair show in most of the classes. It is proposed to hold the exhibition annually.

Gaols and Prisoners.

68. The return for the common gaol compares favourably with those of previous years. The number of commitments for purposes of penal imprisonment was 76, as against an average of 93 for the preceding three years. The daily average number of prisoners was 23·5. The health of the prisoners was exceptionally good, and for the third year in succession no death took place among them.

69. While the gaol is on the whole clean and well kept, I am not satisfied that as high a standard of discipline and efficiency as is desirable in the case of such an institution has been attained. In December Mr. David, the gaoler, was sent on a month's leave to Barbados in order that he might have an opportunity of becoming conversant with the working of the large and well administered convict prison of Glendairy in that Island, and I hope that good results will follow from the experience which he has thus acquired.

70. The following table furnishes useful information with respect to the working of the gaol during the three years ending with 1883 :—

Year.	No. of Commitments.	Committed for Debt.	Committed for Custody till Trial, or for want of Sureties.	Committed for Penal Imprisonment.	No. of Prisoners previously convicted.			Commitments for				Daily average in Prison.	Admissions to Hospital.	Daily average on Sick List.	No. of Deaths.
					Once.	Twice.	Thrice or more.	Five years or more.	More than one and less than five years.	More than three months and less than one year.	Three months or less.				
1881 - -	131	3	12	116	27	10	18	2	8	3	103	32	135	9·6	—
1882 - -	92	—	7	85	17	13	9	1	2	2	80	27·3	80	6·5	—
1883 - -	98	—	22	76	24	17	10	—	7	1	68	23·5	42	4·5	—
Total -	321	3	41	277	68	40	37	3	17	6	251	54·0	257	20·6	—
Average -	107	1	13	92	22	13	12	1	5	2	83	18	85	6·8	—

Criminal Statistics.

71. There is a remarkable absence of crime of the higher degrees among the people of this Colony. Although for the most part free and independent in their bearing, it would not be easy to find anywhere a labouring population more orderly and peaceable. So far as my observation and knowledge extend,

there is not nearly so large an amount of petty pilfering as is to be found in some of the other West Indian Colonies. This comparative freedom from crime, especially of the graver kinds, is probably in a large degree owing to the sobriety which is characteristic of the population as a whole.

72. The following table presents the principal statistics of crime for the last three years :—

	1881.	1882.	1883.	Total.	Average.
Number of cases before the magistrates -	983	866	1,043	2,892	964
Number of summary convictions.					
1. Offences against the person - -	107	91	163	361	120
2. Prædial larceny - - - -	28	15	11	54	18
3. Other offences against property - -	34	41	35	110	36
4. Other offences - - - -	301	253	239	793	264
Number of convictions in the Superior Court.					
1. Offences against the person - -	3	—	3	6	2
2. Arson - - - - -	1	1	—	2	—
3. Other offences against property - -	2	3	5	10	3
Number of persons acquitted.					
1. In the inferior courts - - -	97	142	116	355	118
2. In the Superior Court - - -	—	1	1	2	—

Hospitals.

73. On my arrival in May 1883 I found the Colonial Hospital in a very unsatisfactory condition. The Legislative Council was shortly afterwards asked to sanction a special vote of 100*l.* for the purpose of affecting the repairs and improvements which appeared to be more urgently required. As already stated in paragraph 21 of this report, the result of this expenditure was a considerable improvement in the appearance of the fabric and in the comfort of the patients. Although there is still much to be done in the way of providing offices and furniture, the institution may now be said to be in a fairly satisfactory state.

74. At the commencement of the year there were 15 males and 13 females, or 28 patients altogether, in the hospital. The number of patients admitted during the year was 68 males and 19 females, or 87 in all, the daily average being 17 males and 11 females, or 28·1 of both sexes. There were 11 deaths, as against 18 in the preceding year.

75. I found the Board of Visitors in abeyance, and deferred making any appointment until the repairs were completed, and until the month of January, the statutory time of making the appointment.

General Remarks.

76. The Royal Commissioners, Colonel W. Crossman, R.E., C.M.G., and Mr. G. S. Baden-Powell, with their secretary, Mr. C. Alexander Harris, of the Colonial Office, arrived in the Colony in April in H.M.S. "Dido." They remained in the Island several days, during which time they received oral and written represen-

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tations, with reference to taxation and other subjects, from a large number of the inhabitants. During their stay they traversed a considerable part of the Island, and visited and inspected the various public offices and institutions. Their elaborate and exhausted report has been since received and perused with much interest by all classes of the community, and attention is now directed to the time and degree in which the proposals contained in it will be finally adopted and brought into force.

77. In the latter part of the year a large and influential meeting of merchants and others was held to consider the question of the desirability of establishing a local chamber of commence. In the result such a chamber was shortly afterwards founded, and it may be hoped that its counsel and action will prove serviceable to the protection and advancement of the trade of the Island.

78. The year was a fairly favourable one to the planters, and an average crop of sugar was raised. Although the prices obtained for it were not high, yet they were not marked by the extreme depression which has since supervened. The want of capital, however, continued to interfere seriously with the thoroughtillage of the fields and growing of the canes, and with the introduction of improved methods of manufacture. There are several plants of good steam machinery, but there are no vacuun pans in the Island, and only a very few plantations produce any but the common tayche or muscovado sugar. Many considerations point to the conclusion that if the sugar industry is to hold its own in the West Indian Colonies it must call in to its aid the many scientific and mechanical improvements which have of late years taken place in the manufacturing processes, and it must also fall back on the principles of combination and co-operation. The establishment of three large usines or central factories, one in the Windward and two in the Leeward district, would, I believe, work a considerable change for the better in the prospects and general condition of the Colony, besides yielding a profit to the shareholders. But of course for such a scheme a large amount of capital is required, and this at present is not forthcoming. It seems a pity that with such enormous sums of money in England seeking profitable investment, the attention of capitalists cannot be drawn to such an Island as Tobago, which, as compared with many other fields to which money in abundance is sent, offers indubitable advantages. Here the capitalist will find the English language and English law prevailing; he will find a fairly temperate and salubrious climate, and a peaceable and well-conducted peasantry, the soil fertile in a high degree and well watered, will bear for him most, if not all, of the ordinary tropical products; the supply of labour, although not abundant, would probably be nearly sufficient for his present requirements, a fairly good system of roads affords a convenient means of internal transit for stores and produce, and numerous bays around the coast admit of their being easily imported and exported. The local Government would no doubt readily offer any facilities in their power to the undertaking of any enterprise in this direction, and I have no

doubt also that the local planters and merchants would be found willing to co-operate in any well-considered scheme of this character.

79. The agricultural society has been recently and is at present engaged in making efforts to extend the cultivation of cocoa, coffee, spices, and other economic products, especially among small holders of land, and it is to be hoped that their efforts will in the course of time have some influence on the advancement of the material prosperity of the Colony.

80. Full and recent information on all points relating to its general, social, and economic condition may be obtained from a perusal of a brief but excellent handbook of the Colony, which has been within the last few months compiled by the Honourable L. G. Hay, the treasurer; copies of this handbook may be seen at the rooms of the Royal Colonial Institute, Strand, London.

81. Although the observation does not strictly belong to the year under review, yet I cannot conclude this report without expressing my strong sense of the courage and good temper with which all classes of the population have supported the present condition of affairs—disastrous in an exceeding degree both for private individuals and for the community,—which has been brought about by the unprecedentedly low price of sugar, coupled, as this has unfortunately been, with the failure in April 1884 of Messrs. A. M. Gillespie & Co., London, merchants, who held a large interest, almost to the extent of exercising a monopoly, in the trade and agriculture of the Colony. I will only now express the hope that this period of adversity will not be of long duration, and that the energy and perseverance of its inhabitants, together with an inflowing of the necessary capital, will at no distant time secure for this interesting and once thriving Colony a return, in an even augmented degree, of its former prosperity.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. W. CARRINGTON,
Administrator.

His Excellency
Major-General H. R. Browne,
Administrating the General Government,
Windward Islands.

MONTSERRAT.

MONTSERRAT.

No. 11.

Administrator NEALE PORTER to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY, K.G.

Government House, Antigua,
August 8, 1884.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship the report of the Acting President on the Blue Book of Montserrat for 1883.

I have, &c.
(Signed) NEALE PORTER,
Administrator.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Derby, K.G.,
&c. &c.

President's Office,
Montserrat, July 18, 1884.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward to his Excellency the Governor the Blue Book of this Presidency for 1883, with the accompanying report thereon.

Finance.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Revenue receipts for 1883 -				5,863	9	11
Special loan to meet Federal arrears of 1882 - -	300	0	0			
Waterworks account transferred - -	967	19	10			
On deposit -	1	3	0			
				1,269	2	10
Total - -				7,132	12	9
Balance on 31st December 1882 - - -				178	14	2
				7,311	6	11

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Ordinary expenditure for 1883 - -				5,567	11	4
Arrears of Federal expenditure of 1882 - -	325	18	5			
Waterworks account transferred - -	886	3	8			
				1,212	2	1
Total - -				6,779	13	5
Credit balance 31st December 1883 - -				531	13	
				7,311	6	11

The above statement shows the financial condition of the Presidency on the 31st December 1883 with reference to the ordinary revenue and expenditure of 1883, the arrears of 1882

with loan to meet the same, and also the waterworks account as separate from the general account.

Ordinance No. 10 of 1882 provides for the raising by debentures of a sum of 500*l.* in aid of the revenue of this Presidency, on which authority the sum of 300*l.* was raised to meet the arrears of Federal expenditure of 1882.

The credit balance shown by the above financial statement on the 31st December 1883, viz., 531*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.*, is made up of—

	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
Waterworks balance - - -				581	16	2
On deposit - - - -				1	3	0
General account, 1883 -	270	0	2			
Credit balance of 1882 on 31st December -	178	14	2			
				448	14	4
				531	13	6

Public Debt.

The public debt on 31st December 1883 was 4,200*l.*, viz.:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Waterworks loan - - -	3,000	0	0
Waterworks completion loan - -	900	0	0
Revenue loan of 1882 - - -	300	0	0
	4,200	0	0

Debentures for 3,700*l.* of waterworks loan, interest at 5 per cent. and 1 per cent. for sinking fund. Debentures for 200*l.* at 4½ per cent. and 1 per cent. for sinking fund.

Revenue loan of 300*l.* payable on the 31st December 1887 at 4½ per cent. interest.

The following is a comparative statement of revenue received from "Customs" and "Taxes," 1882 and 1883:—

—	1882.	1883.		
	£	£	*s.*	*d.*
Import duties - - - -	2,529	2,776	0	0
Export „ - - - -	480	468	0	0
Excise duty on rum manufactured in the island and entered for home consumption, 2*s.* 6*d.* per imperial gallon, with extra 1*d.* per gallon above proof, and similar reduction below proof - - -	709	567	0	0
Land and house tax of 15*s.* per 100*l.* of assessed value - - - -	1,194	1,195	0	0
Horse tax of 9*s.* on all horses of two years and over - - - -	193	192	0	0
License for sale of spirits, wines, &c., general at 30*l.* per annum; special (or rum only) 15*l.* per annum. - - - -	195	217	10	0

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In 1883 there has been a great falling off in the manufacture of rum for home consumption, which, while it has caused a decrease in the excise duty, has led to the unusually large importation of 2,035 gallons of rum for retail purpose.

Table showing Revenue received from principal Articles of Food Stuffs imported, 1882 *and* 1883.

Articles.	1882.			1883.		
	Quantity.	Rate of Duty.	Revenue.	Quantity.	Rate of Duty.	Revenue.
			£ s. d.			£ s. d.
Bread and biscuits -	133⅙ brls.	2*s.* 6*d.* per brl.	16 12 11	85⅛ brls.	Same rate of duty as 1882.	10 12 11
Corn meal - -	489 brls.	Free.	—	129 brls.		—
Flour - - -	2,564½ brls.	2*s.* per brl.	256 9 0	2,160 brls.		216 0 0
Beef and pork - -	259 brls.	8*s.* per brl.	103 12 0	254⅝ brls.		101 17 0
Butter - - -	11,208 lbs.	1*d.* per lb.	46 14 0	12,680 lbs.		52 16 8
Fish, dried - -	210,905 lbs.	1*s.* per 100 lbs.	105 9 0	222,575 lbs.		111 5 9
Fish, pickled - -	376 brls.	2*s.* per brl.	37 12 0	554½ brls.		55 9 0
Lard - - -	5,446 lbs.	½*d.* per lb.	11 6 11	5,742 lbs.		11 19 3
Rice - - -	40,802 lbs.	2*s.* per 100 lbs.	40 16 2	18,725 lbs.		18 14 7
Peas - - -	82¼ bush.	6*d.* per bush.	2 1 1	63¼ bush.		1 11 8
Cheese - - -	5,135 lbs.	1*d.* per lb.	21 7 11	4,602 lbs.		19 3 6
Total - -			642 1 0			599 10 4

Table showing Revenue received from Ale, Beer, Spirits and Wines imported, 1882 *and* 1883.

Articles.	1882.			1883.		
	Quantity.	Rate of Duty.	Revenue.	Quantity.	Rate of Duty.	Revenue.
			£ s. d.			£ s. d.
Ale and beer, &c. -	1,462½ doz.	6*d.* per doz.	36 11 2	1,258½ doz.	Same rate of duty as 1882.	31 9 3
Brandy - - -	410⅙ galls.	4*s.* per gal.	82 0 8	565⅝ gals.		113 3 4
Gin and rum - -	980⅓ galls.	3*s.* per gal.	147 1 0	2,848¼ gals.		427 3 9
Whiskey - -	123⅙ galls.	4*s.* per gal.	24 12 8	214⅓ gals.		42 18 8
Wines - - -	146*l.* value	15 per cent. ad. val.	21 18 0	120*l.* 17*s.* 4*d.*		18 2 8
Total - -			312 3 6			632 17 8

Value of Imports and Exports for 1882 *and* 1883.

	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
1882 - - - - -	28,780	38,120
1883 - - - - -	29,255	31,494

The falling off in the value of exports for 1883 is owing to a shipment of sugar and lime juice valued at 6,827*l.* not being completed until January 1884.

Comparative Statement of Chief Articles of Export, 1882 *and* 1883.

Year.	Sugar.			Molasses.	Lime Juice, concentrated.	Lime Juice, raw.
	Hhds.	Tons.	Barrels.	Puns.	Hhds.	Puns.
1882 -	18	3,028	2,394	540	159	374
1883 -	9	2,030	2,588	322	166	1,107

(*continued*).

Year.	Lime Essence.	Pickled Limes.	Fresh Limes.	Tamarinds.	Cattle, Horned.
	Cases.	Barrels.	Boxes.	Barrels.	
1881 -	5	150	216	221	126
1882 -	37	50	144	257	71

Shipping.

	Entered.				Cleared.			
Year.	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Tons.	Crew.	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Tons.	Crew.
1882 -	10	286	16,167	1,379	6	290	12,996	1,305
1883 -	25	235	29,224	1,603	22	236	26,811	1,545

Population.

—	Males.	Females.	Total.
By census of 1881 -	4,639	5,444	10,083

—	Births.	Deaths.
1882 - - -	434	221
1883 - - - -	496	201

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The number of still births were in 1882 11, and in 1883 18.

The excess of births over deaths in 1882 was	213
And the same for 1883 was - - -	293
Excess - - -	506

The immigration and emigration being about equal these figures show a steady natural increase of the population.

Savings Bank.

Dr.					Cr.		
£	s.	d.			£	s.	d.
—			13 depositors of less than 1*l.* - - -		5	8	9
—			6 „ over 1*l.*, and less than 5*l.* - -		19	6	8
—			5 „ „ 5*l.* „ „ 10*l.* - -		34	12	8
—			8 „ „ 10*l.* „ „ 20*l.* - -		112	9	2
—			4 „ „ 20*l.* „ „ 30*l.* - -		84	6	10
—			1 „ „ 30*l.* „ „ 40*l.* - -		35	12	8
—			2 „ „ 40*l.* „ „ 50*l.* - -		84	12	2
—			2 „ „ 50*l.* „ „ 60*l.* - -		102	9	11
—			„ „ 60*l.* „ „ 70*l.* - -			—	
—			1 „ „ 70*l.* „ „ 80*l.* - -		74	1	11
—			„ „ 80*l.* „ „ 90*l.* - -			—	
—			2 „ „ 90*l.* „ „ 100*l.* - -		190	7	9
—			3 „ „ 100*l.* - - -		411	8	3
			47		1,154	16	9
45	14	10	Interest account.				
3	0	7	Expense Account.				
950	0	0	Deposits at Interest.				
156	1	4	Cash.				
1,154	16	9			1154	16	9

The deposits are now double what they were in 1882.

Gaols and Prisoners:

The total number of persons committed in 1883 was 93, 62 males, 25 females, 6 juveniles; of these, 22 were for safe custody till trial, or for want of security, and 71 were for purposes of penal imprisonment, viz., 45 men, 21 women, and 5 juveniles.

Of the number sentenced to penal imprisonment, 6 were for one or more but less than five years, 5 were for more than three months but less than one year, and 60 for three months or less.

The numbers of these previously convicted are 12 once, 7 twice, 9 thrice or more.

The daily average in prison is 9.

Admissions to hospital during the year, 17. There are no deaths.

The total annual cost of the prison during the year was 253*l.* 3*s.* 7*d.*

Criminal Statistics.

Comparative table showing the number of offences, apprehensions, convictions, and acquittals for the last three years.

——	1881.	1882.	1883.
Number of persons apprehended or summoned before the magistrates - - -	670	694	719
Number of summary convictions:—			
1. Offences against the person - -	82	96	159
2. Prædial larceny - - -	38	27	13
3. Offences against property other than prædial larceny - - -	41	83	46
4. Other offences - - - -	167	105	80
Number of convictions in superior courts:—			
1. Offences against the person - -	5	1	—
2. Prædial larceny - - -	1	—	—
3. Offences against property other than prædial larceny - - -	—	1	9
4. Other offences - - - -	—	—	2
Number of persons acquitted:—			
1. In the inferior courts - - -	326	368	416
2. In the superior courts - - -	10	1	6

General Remarks.

The Island was as usual healthy.

The import trade, which had improved during the year, will be seriously affected by the depressed state of the sugar market, on which the trade so greatly depends.

With exception of covering the reservoir with a roof of galvanised iron, which is all prepared, the waterworks are completed, and the town of Plymouth and its vicinity, with the village of Kinsale, are now provided with an abundant supply of pure and wholesome water.

The Criminal Statistics call for no special remark. The population are law-abiding.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. MEADE,

Acting President.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary of the Leeward Islands, Antigua.

St. Kitts and Nevis.

ST. KITTS AND NEVIS.

No. 12.

Administrator Neale Porter to the Right Hon. the Earl of Derby, K.G.

Government House, Antigua,
August 26th, 1884.

My Lord,

I have the honour to forward to your Lordship the Blue Book of St. Christopher and Nevis for the year 1883, with the Acting President's report thereon.

I have, &c.
(Signed) Neale Porter,
Administrator.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Derby, K.G.,
&c. &c.

President's Office, August 22, 1884.

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit the Blue Book for 1883, the first year of the United Presidency of St. Christopher, Nevis, and Anguilla.

It is gratifying to find no falling off in the revenue as compared with the receipts of each island prior to the union, and it is equally satisfactory to record an increase in the estimated revenue for 1883.

The revenue estimated at 37,422*l.* 3*s.* 3*d.* yielded 41,583*l.* 19*s.* 10¼*d.*, the increase being derived principally from the following sources :—Import duty 2,460*l.*, pier dues 557*l.*, cavalry and export duty 431*l.*, fines and penalties 200*l.*, licenses 200*l.*, water works rents, &c., 100*l.*

The expenditure was estimated at 41,504*l.* 16*s.* 11*d.*, and the actual outlay, inclusive of arrears paid in 1884 of 915*l.* 13*s.* 10*d.*, only amounted to 40,495*l.* 15*s.* 5¾*d.*

A summary of the financial position of the Presidency gives the following satisfactory result :—

January 1st, 1883 cash balance.

	£.	s.	d.
St. Christopher - - -	518	15	6
Received from Nevis - - -	1,100	1	6¼
Revenue 1883 - - -	41,583	19	10¼
	43,202	16	10½
Expenditure, 1883 - - -	39,580	1	7¾
Balance in hand 1st January 1884	3,622	15	2½
Less paid arrears 1883 in 1884 -	915	13	10
Available for 1884 - - -	2,707	1	4½

In addition to this balance the following special funds exist :—

Immigration.

	£	s.	d.
Saint Christopher - - -	9,410	2	0
Nevis - - - -	1,854	19	3½

Savings Bank.

	£	s.	d.
Saint Christopher - - -	3,211	0	8
Nevis - - - -	1,396	2	10½

The assets and liabilities are as follows :—

Liabilites. £	s.	d.		Assets. £	s.	d.
2,700	0	0	Basseterre building loan - - -			
9,410	2	0	Immigration Saint Christopher - - -			
1,854	19	3½	„ Nevis - - - -			
124	16	7	Escheated estates - - - -			
132	11	8	Unrepresented estates - - - -			
44	16	1	Land claimants - - - - -			
53	1	7½	Wharfage account - - - -			
11	3	6½	Casual receiver - - - - -			
			Colonial Bank at interest - - -	15,273	19	0
			„ current account - - -	182	13	7½
			Crown Agents - - - - -	994	11	10
			Borrowers, Basseterre loan - - -	1,450	0	0
3,569	13	8	Excess of assets - - - - -			
17,901	4	5½		17,901	4	5½

ST. KITTS AND NEVIS.

Executive and legislative councils were nominated by Her Majesty this year, and are as follows:—

Executive Council.

Neale Porter, Esq., Colonial Secretary; Stephen H. Gatty, Esq., Attorney General; P. Burns, Esq., Auditor General; C. M. Eldridge, Esq., Acting President; Edward A. Faille, Esq., Sir T. Graham Briggs, Esq., James S. Berridge, Esq., R. E. Semper, Esq., George J. Evelyn, Esq., J. H. H. Berkeley, Esq., Edward Pogson, Esq.

Legislative Council.

Official.	*Unofficial.*
The President.	J. H. Berkeley, Esq.
The Colonial Secretary.	T. Mac Nish, Esq.
The Attorney General.	R. Smith, Esq.
The Treasurer.	Samuel Abbott, Esq.
F. S. Wigley, Esq.	John R. Gould, Esq.
E. A. Faille, Esq.	E. L. Carter, Esq.
The Registrar.	E. G. Todd, Esq.
R. E. Semper, Esq.	C. C. Greaves, Esq.
W. J. Branch, Esq., M.D.	D. S. Blake, Esq.
J. K. Dinzey, Esq., M.D.	Thomas Liburd, Esq.

The legislation for the year was limited, some eighteen measures were passed.

The immigration and taxes in St. Christopher and Nevis, respectively were remitted for the year. The horse and carriage tax in Nevis was abolished. Ordinances based on existing laws were passed and made applicable throughout the Presidency on the following subjects:—Treasury and imports, excise, dog tax, vaccination, burials, registration of births and deaths, appropriation and indemnification Ordinances were ordained respectively for the public service for 1884, and for sums spent in excess of estimates during 1883. The Nevis Stamp Act was adopted for the united Presidency, and a Piers' Dues Ordinance became law for the maintenance and erection of piers in St. Christopher and Nevis.

Amendments were made to the Militia and Cunningham Hospital Acts of St. Christopher. The powers of the vestry of Anguilla were abolished, the Island being represented in the General Legislative Council. Ordinances for the execution of works for the protection of the town of Basseterre against flood, and for admitting articles the growth and produce of the Islands of the Federal Government, free of duty, became law, and a better system for the registration of Ordinances was adopted. Considerable friction exists with reference to the working of federal and local laws, on account of the want of preparatory or concurrent legislation to or with the creation of the United Presidency.

The demand for labour was not greater than the supply, no application for imported labour was made by the agriculturists. The cessation of coolie immigration to Nevis will I fear lead to the return of indentured labourers to India upon the expiration of their contracts in 1884. A small yearly supply to the Presidency would do much to stimulate local industry, and tend to encourage location amongst those already imported. The annual presence of a coolie ship dispels the loneliness and home sickness of coolies, who are isolated by their residence on a small island without contact with other Indians. To remedy this state of things the coolie malingers, breaks his contract, and runs away to other places where his countrymen are located.

The gradual increased use of the savings banks testifies to increased frugality amongst our people. The lodgments in 1882 and 1883 were as follows:—

	£	£
St. Christopher - -	2,510 and	3,211
Nevis - - - -	608 „	1,396

The Inspector General of Schools in his report for 1883 gives the following comparative figures:—

St. Christopher.

—	Number of Schools.	Daily Attendance.
1875 - - - -	26	1,327
1882 - - - -	25	1,783
1883 - - - -	26	1,725

Nevis.

—	Number of Schools.	Daily Attendance.
1875 - - - -	9	406
1882 - - - -	10	652
1883 - - - -	10	705

Adding that "all schools with one or two exceptions in every "Presidency of the Colony have made progress in their attain- "ments."

ST. KITTS AND NEVIS.

From the reports of the analyzer of vital statistics I gather the fact that the first three-quarters of the year were healthy, and the last not so healthy, owing to the prevalence of influenza, diarrhœa, and dysentery. The births and deaths in St. Christopher and Nevis in 1883 were 1,868 and 1,396, against 1,889 and 1,620 in the previous year. Thus the births were 472 in excess of deaths. Vaccinations were 1,724 in 1883 and only 1,077 (in 1882.) There were 304 marriages in St. Christopher and Nevis. A medical man was sent to Anguilla during the year, and 1,754 successful vaccinations were performed.

The only notable work during the year under the head of works and buildings was the extension of the Basseterre piers to a length more commensurate with the requirements of the trade of Basseterre. New and powerful cranes and tramway iron were ordered from England. The want of warehouse accommodation is much felt, and the dilapidated condition of the Treasury but ill contrasts with the other public buildings, which are in a state of efficiency.

The town of Charleston in Nevis was lighted during the year, and the bridging and draining Iles' stream were determined upon.

The massive and extensive wall work along the line of road in St. Christopher tends to maintain a heavy and uncertain annual expenditure ; considerable outlay in this manner was expended. The roads and streets are in good order. In Nevis an acknowledged improvement in the roads was effected.

In conclusion, a record may fairly be made that the first year of the union has not been disappointing to its promoters.

The crop, although not large, was realised at remunerating rates.

The trade with our foreign neighbours was maintained.

Additional lines of steamers visited our ports, and in Nevis extended cultivation is to be seen.

Some delay has occurred in compiling the Blue Book this year, which is mainly attributable to the compilation including the Islands of the United Presidency, but in future I trust it will be furnished at an earlier period of the year.

I have, &c.

The Honourable
The Acting Colonial Secretary
of Antigua.

(Signed) C. M. ELDRIDGE,
Acting President.

GAMBIA.

No. 13.

Administrator F. F. PINKETT, to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY.

Government House, Sierra Leone,
October 9, 1884.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit a despatch from the Administrator of the Gambia, of the 13th September last, reporting on the Blue Book of that Settlement for the year 1883.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) FRANCIS F. PINKETT,
Administrator-in-Chief.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Derby, K.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

Government House, Bathurst,
September 13, 1884.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Blue Book of the Settlement on the Gambia for the year 1883, with my report thereon.

Taxes, Duties, and Fees.

The legislation of the year provided for an altered tariff under Ordinance No. 10, of 6th November 1883, entitled "The Customs Tariff Ordinance, 1883," which was passed by the Legislature on the 6th November last, and came, under proclamation of 7th December following, into operation on the 1st January 1884; under it the *ad valorem* duty of 2 per cent. charged under Ordinance No. 1 of 1874, was abolished, and specific duties substituted. Duty on palm wine was abolished, and right to drawback on exportation given.

Under Ordinance No. 11, of 6th December 1883, the quarantine fee imposed under Ordinance of 18th April 1860 was abolished: there was a further reduction from 1*s.* 6*d.* under Ordinance No. 2 of 1874 to 1*s.* per ton on vessels over 15 tons register entering the River Gambia. Further, instead of the imposition of 1*s.* per ton additional duty payable once on a vessel solely employed within the river proceeding outside, a duty of 1*s.* is imposed each time

GAMBIA.

any such vessel re-enters the Gambia. This Ordinance came into operation, under proclamation of 20th December 1883, on the 1st January 1884.

Ordinance No. 12, of 31st December 1883, entitled "An "Ordinance to amend the law relating to the appointment of a "sheriff and to make certain provisions in respect to his duties" has made certain additions to the scale of fees prescribed by Ordinance No. 2 of 1878.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The estimated revenue for 1883 was represented by 21,912*l.* against the actual 29,152*l.* 0*s.* 10*d.* with the result of an increase by 7,240*l.* 0*s.* 10*d.* of the latter over former.

The difference is made up of the following amounts in excess of estimated receipts under headings given—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Customs - - - -	6,255	9	4
Fines, forfeitures, &c. - -	45	4	0
Reimbursements in aid - -	251	17	2
Postage - - - -	57	13	8
Miscellaneous receipts - -	339	5	1
Auction duty - - -	19	5	4
Interest - - - -	444	0	5
	7,412	15	0

less the sum of 172*l.* 14*s.* 2*d.* amount over—estimated under following heads:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Licenses - - - -	37	8	0
Rents, exclusive of land - -	97	19	8
Land revenue - - -	27	6	6
Government steamer - -	10	0	0
	172	14	2

There has been an increase of 2,908*l.* 4*s.* 8*d.* as regards revenue of 1883 as compared with that of 1882, under certain heads, and a decrease by 381*l.* 17*s.* 10*d.* under others. The former is mainly accounted for by interest on increased investments and increased customs receipts. Doubtless advantage was taken of the time allowed from the passing of "the Customs Tariff Ordinance 1883" to remove from the customs control such articles as would otherwise be liable to increased duty on the coming into operation of the Ordinance quoted.

The following table shows the net revenue for the two past years with comparative increases or decreases as they apply, under the different heads of service:—

Heads of Service.	1882.	1883.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Customs	22,964 6 3	25,215 9 4	2,251 3 1	—
Licenses	999 15 0	1,014 12 0	14 17 0	—
Rents exclusive of land	670 2 9	472 0 4	—	198 2 5
Fines, forfeitures, &c.	401 14 11	310 4 0	—	91 10 11
Land revenue	165 10 4	132 13 6	—	32 16 10
Reimbursements in aid	183 7 9	311 17 2	128 9 5	—
Postage	30 11 3	102 13 8	72 2 5	—
Miscellaneous receipts	446 16 10	619 5 1	172 8 3	—
Fees of office	26 18 6	—	—	26 18 6
Auction duty	60 0 6	29 5 4	—	30 15 2
Government steamer	1 14 0	—	—	1 14 0
Interest	674 15 11	944 0 5	269 4 6	—
	26,625 14 0	29,152 0 10	2,908 4 8	381 17 10

The estimate against the actual expenditure of the year stands at 21,907*l.* 3*s.* 1*d.* as compared with 23,878*l.* 4*s.* 3*d.*, with the result of an increase of 1,971*l.* 1*s.* 2*d.*

This difference will be at once accounted for when I explain that there was expended during 1883, for which among other outlays no provision had been made, the sum of 2,219*l.* 5*s.* as follows:—

	£ s. d.
Oyster Creek Bridge	819 5 0
Mail subsidy for 1881 and 1882	1,400 0 0

While the expenditure for 1883 under certain approved votes amounted to 20,666*l.* 15*s.* with unexpended balances under certain votes that amounted to 1,240*l.* 8*s.* 1*d.*, yet there was an excess outlay under certain heads of service that amounted to 3,211*l.* 9*s.* 3*d.*

The expenditure of 1883 as compared with 1882 stands at 23,878*l.* 4*s.* 3*d.* against 19,721*l.* 1*s.* 3*d.*, with increases that amounted to 5,110*l.* 12*s.* 3*d.* against decreases that amounted to 953*l.* 9*s.* 3*d.* The difference between total increases and decreases equals 4,157*l.* 3*s.*, of which there was under authority, but without estimate provision, an expenditure in former years of 3,441*l.* 19*s.* 9*d.*

The net expenditure for the years 1882 and 1883 with comparative increases and decreases under the component headings is shown in the following table:—

Heads of Expenditure.	1882.	1883.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Salaries fixed	11,275 12 2	11,215 15 8	—	59 16 6
Do. pro. and tem.	217 4 2	987 12 3	770 8 1	—
Allowances	513 16 3	503 18 5	—	9 17 10
Contingencies	28 15 3	109 15 7	81 0 4	—
Pensions, &c.	1,127 14 2	1,277 8 11	149 14 9	—
Administration of justice, exclusive of establishments.	77 13 1	174 12 0	96 18 11	—
Education, exclusive of establishment.	344 8 9	49 14 3	—	294 14 6
Hospitals, exclusive of establishment.	228 17 10	547 8 3	318 10 5	—
Police and goals, exclusive of establishment.	698 11 4	856 6 8	157 15 4	—

Heads of Expenditure.	1882.	1883.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Charitable allowances	159 0 0	181 0 0	22 0 0	—
Aborigines	447 1 9	543 1 5	95 19 8	—
Rent	147 8 8	66 13 0	—	80 15 8
Transport	198 3 0	696 4 0	498 1 0	—
Conveyance of mails	1,000 0 0	2,200 0 0	1,200 0 0	—
Works and buildings	1,545 0 9	1,385 7 2	—	159 13 7
Roads, streets, and bridges	319 16 9	305 10 0	—	14 6 9
Drawback, &c.	543 5 8	309 6 6	—	233 19 2
Miscellaneous services	541 19 0	997 10 9	455 11 9	—
Government vessels, exclusive of establishments.	89 7 3	27 8 0	—	61 19 3
Revenue services, exclusive of establishments.	178 19 5	624 6 5	445 7 0	—
Special services	—	819 5 0	819 5 0	—
Upper Gambia expedition	38 6 0	—	—	38 6 0
	19,721 1 3	23,878 4 3	5,110 12 3	953 9 3

Local Revenues.

Under Ordinance No. 6 of 1879, intituled "An Ordinance to "re-enact an Ordinance to make better provision for levying a "rate for local improvements," there is imposed a local rate of 3 per cent. on annual value of all lots or portions of lots not being the property of the Crown on which buildings may or may not be erected in Bathurst, the capital of the Settlement, to which the operation of the Ordinance has been so far confined.

Sums raised thereunder have been treated as a deposit account and applied in the matter of expenditure to the making and repairing of roads and foot-paths, bridges, drainage, the building and repairing of embankments, and to other strictly local improvements.

The balance of this deposit account from 1882 was 137*l.* 5*s.* 8*d.*

The receipts for 1883 were 284*l.* 11*s.* 4*d.* which with balance amounted to 421*l.* 17*s.*, of which there was expended during the year the sum of 323*l.* 19*s.* 3*d.* with the result of a balance brought forward in 1884 of 97*l.* 17*s.* 9*d.*

The rates received during the past five years have been:—

Year.	Amount.
	£ s. d.
1879	260 3 8
1880	256 2 11
1881	262 7 9
1882	265 2 8
1883	284 11 4

Public Debt.

There is no public debt of the Settlement on the Gambia. On the contrary, there was a credit balance on 31st December 1883 of 29,757*l.* 18*s.* 1*d.*

Military Expenditure.

There have been no troops stationed in the Settlement since 1870.

The local defensive force, composed chiefly of Sierra Leonians, is represented by the police as under:—

1 Superintendent (European).
1 Sergeant-major.
2 Sergeants.
7 Corporals.
22 First-class constables.
26 Second-class constables.
52 Third-class constables.

The total cost of the force for the year has been—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Establishments - - -	3,492	12	10
Exclusive of establishments -	486	9	2

Public Works.

No special works, if I except Oyster Creek Bridge, were proceeded with during the year.

The efforts of the Engineer Department seem to have been directed towards renovation.

The expenses incurred during 1883 on the Oyster Creek Bridge amounted to 819*l.* 5*s.*

Legislation.

The following Ordinances were passed during the year:—

No. 1 of 6th March.—"The Appropriation Ordinance, 1883."

No. 2 of 8th March.—"The Registration legalizing and indemnifying Ordinance 1883."

No. 3 of 8th March.—"An Ordinance to amend 'An Ordinance "'intituled an Ordinance for the trial of certain offences without "'a jury.'"

Under Ordinance No. 7 of 1882 it was provided that in case of disagreement as to verdict between chief magistrate and commissioners or justices, the chief magistrate should be allowed a casting vote. Under Ordinance No. 3 of 1883 this provision was repealed."

No. 4 of 8th March.—"An Ordinance to amend an Ordinance to further regulate the procedure in the court of civil and criminal justice, and to fix the sittings of the said court."

Section 15 of Ordinance of 2nd December 1867 provided that no sittings of the court of civil and criminal justice should be held between 10th August and 9th November in each year. It

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was considered expedient to give power to the Administrator to order a sitting of the court in September, in addition to the sittings as prescribed by section 12 of Ordinance No. 4 of 8th September 1882.

No. 5 of 12th September.—"An Ordinance to amend the Ordinance, intituled an Ordinance for establishing a registry of births, deaths, and marriages in the British Settlements on the Gambia."

No. 6 of 27th September.—"An Ordinance to amend the Registration Ordinance 1880."

The above Ordinances were passed to meet intended appointment of Queen's Advocate, who was to be the registrar under previous Ordinances, and to provide, under former, for the summary recovery of forfeitures or penalties incurred or imposed under previous Ordinance.

No. 7 of 4th October.—"The Gaol Ordinance, 1883."

The want of this Act was felt, and it was passed on the basis of the Sierra Leone Ordinance, No.

No. 8 of 25th October.—"An Ordinance to further amend the "laws relative to jurors and juries."

Section 3 of Ordinance of 2nd December 1867 had been, it would appear, printed differently at various times, so that doubt existed as to what was the correct copy. It was further deemed convenient, in view of the circumstances of the Settlement, to provide that no alien be entitled to a jury *de medietate linguae*. Ordinance No. 8 of 1883 was accordingly passed.

No. 9 of 25th October.—"An Ordinance to legalize certain "payments made in the year 1882 beyond the expenditure "authorised by law."

No. 10 of the 6th November.—"The Customs Tariff Ordinance, "1883."

This Ordinance was passed to consolidate and amend the duties of customs. Under it the *ad valorem* duty of 2 per cent. charged under Ordinance No. 1 of 1874 was abolished, and specific duties substituted. Duty on palm wine was abolished, and right to drawback on exportation given.

No. 11 of 6th December.—"The Tonnage Dues Amendment Ordinance, 1883."

Under foregoing the quarantine fee imposed under Ordinance of 18th April 1860 was abolished, and there was a further reduction from 1*s.* 6*d.* under Ordinance No. 2 of 1874 to one shilling per ton on vessels over 15 tons register entering the River Gambia, (under Ordinance of 11th April 1860 the rate used to be 2*s.*). Further, instead of the imposition of 1*s.* per ton additional duty payable once on a vessel solely employed within the river, proceeding outside, a duty of 1*s.* is imposed each time any such vessel re-enters the Gambia.

No. 12 of 31st December.—"An Ordinance to amend the law "relating to the appointment of a sheriff, and to make certain "provisions in respect to his duties."

Provisions were here made for the abrogation of the old practice of a yearly appointment from the inhabitants, under Ordinance of 19th September 1842, for the substitution of a permanent sheriff on a fixed salary, for the appointment as well as of a deputy sheriff, that the Clerk of Courts be *virtute officii* sheriff as often as no sheriff be appointed; and for the regulation of the service of writs, and mode of recovering fines.

Legislative Council.

There was an addition of an unofficial member to the Legislative Council, in the person of Mr. J. D. Richards, a native gentleman.

Civil Establishment.

No official changes of importance are recorded, and the Government of this Settlement have been fortunate in having had no deaths among its staff.

Population, Marriages, Births, and Deaths.

According to the Census taken in 1881, the population of the Settlement represented then a total of 14,150, made up as follows:—

——	Males.	Females.
Bathurst (Island St. Mary) -	2,790	3,348
Ceded Mile - - -	2,289	1,758
British Combo - - -	1,632	1,425
M'Carthy's Island - - -	504	404
Total - -	7,215	6,935

Of the foregoing number there were 105 Europeans.

The religious views of the population at the time are stated in the following table:—

——	Number.
Wesleyans - - - - - -	2,012
Roman Catholics - - - - -	979
Episcopalians - - - - - -	819
Presbyterians - - - - - -	10
Other Christian persuasion - - - -	5
Mahomedans - - - - - -	5,800
Pagans ? - - - - - -	5,025
Total - - - -	14,150

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Savings Banks, Friendly Societies, &c.

The question of the association with the Treasury of a savings bank is under the consideration of the Legislature. Such an establishment should prove a great boon to the community, affording ready facilities for the investment of small savings.

The friendly societies within the Settlement number 16 according to the records of the registry office.

Churches, Livings, &c.

The following return of churches and clergy for 1883 is compiled from the information received from the different religious bodies :—

Religious Denominations.	No. of Clergy.	Churches and other Buildings used for Public Worship.		No. of Persons generally attending.	Remarks.
		Number.	Persons for whom there is accommodation.		
Wesleyan - - - -	3	11	1,980	1,720	
Roman Catholic - - -	3	3	770	600	
Church of England - -	1	2	310	240	

The following returns will show the comparative decrease or increase during the two previous years in the births, marriages, and deaths of the different Christian denominations of the Gambia.

Return of Births.

Religious Denomination.	1882.	1883.	Increase.	Decrease.	Remarks.
Church of England - -	77	66	—	11	(Baptisms.)
Wesleyan - - - -	72	56	—	16	
Roman Catholic - - -	47	37	—	10	
Total - -	196	159	—	37	

The foregoing information has been rendered by the head of each denomination mentioned.

Return of Marriages.

Religious Denominations.	1882.	1883.	Increase.	Decrease.
Church of England - -	10	8	—	2
Wesleyan - - - -	7	13	6	—
Roman Catholic - - -	3	1	—	2
Total - - -	20	22	6	4

The foregoing information has been rendered by the head of each denomination mentioned.

Return of Deaths.

Religious Denominations.	1882.	1883.	Increase.	Decrease.
Wesleyan - - - -	56	49	—	7
Roman Catholic - - -	25	48	23	—
Church of England - -	9	10	1	—
Total - -	90	107	24	7

The foregoing information has been rendered by the head of each denomination mentioned.

Colonial Registrar's return of births, deaths, and marriages for the years 1882 and 1883 for the Island of St. Mary stands as follows:—

	1882.	1883.	Increase.	Decrease.
Births - - -	86	77	—	9
Deaths - - -	339	390	51	—
Marriages -	No returns.			

The cause of increase in the total deaths in 1883 as compared with 1882 will be found in the heavier mortality among young children between the ages of 10 and three years.

Under Ordinance of 12th May 1845, so far as it applied, the supply of full and complete information under foregoing headings was aimed at, but a comparison between the return of the Registrar and that compiled from information received from the heads of the different Christian bodies, represented by a total in the Settlement in 1881 of 3,825 against the Mohammedan and "Pagan" elements who totalled 10,825, will readily show how little operative the above Act has been for the years given.

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Again, presuming, as I have no reason to question, the fullness of the Registrar's figures as to deaths in the island of St. Mary, to which alone it may be fairly stated, that the Ordinance of 12th May 1845 has applied, the death-rate per thousand of the population of this island, composed almost entirely of natives represented by a total in 1881 of 6,138 who should be accommodated to the climate, if the theory of acclimatization be accepted must have been 63·54 nearly, a high rate indeed under the circumstances, notwithstanding the fact that the people live on the swampy malarial delta of a tropical African river, which for a certain number of months is almost covered, more frequently than not, with water.

Of the total deaths, returned in 1882, viz., 339, three were of whites, 331 of blacks, and four of mulattoes. In 1883 the figures under like headings were 9, 377, and 4.

The high death-rate to which I have called attention seems to be chiefly made up by the excessive mortality among children, of whom 138 under 10 years of age died in 1882, and of them 119 were under three years of age.

In 1883 there were registered 186 deaths among children under 10 years of age, of whom 114 were under three years of age.

Accordingly, from the statistics available, the enormous death-rate of children was in 1882 over 40 per cent. and in 1883 over 47 per cent.

Under the circumstances I have been looking for some special cause with a view to find a remedy for any special disease or diseases.

The Colonial Surgeon informs me that "the class of natives "that help most to swell the death-rate here are the Salloom "and the Seriahs or Séréree, who die principally from alcoholic "poisoning; their children (infants) die from diarrhœa and con-"vulsion during dentition. The ages, I should say, of the adults "from 25 to 40, children under two years." His information is based, I find on inquiry, on general observation rather than on attendance.

Deaths registered in the Colonial Hospital for 1882 and 1883 were 18 and 32, which represent a small proportion of numbers returned in Registry Office. Among the former were no cases of alcoholism in 1882 and only one in 1883.

To a large consumption of fruit in July and August can be attributed, I am told, much of the mortality among children. Poor food, indifferent clothing and housing, combined with a very damp climate during certain portions of the year, for many, indeed, of the dwellings in this island are miserable places of abode, must, if they do not originate, at least nurse disease in those of tender years, and contribute later in no small degree to the death-rate.

The causes of disease productive of such a high mortality should engage the earnest attention of the medical staff of the Settlement and remedial measures for their removal should be fully considered and recommended. The foregoing remarks will

help somewhat to explain the unhealthy and unsatisfactory issue in numbers, of the census of 1881 as compared with that of 1871, as follows.

Component parts of Settlement.	1871.			1881.			Increase.			Decrease.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Bathurst—Island of St. Mary.	2,139	2,452	4,591	2,790	3,348	6,138	651	896	1,547	—	—	—
British Combo	2,319	2,100	4,419	1,632	1,425	3,057	—	—	—	687	675	1,362
Ceded Mile -	2,201	1,716	3,917	2,289	1,758	4,047	88	42	130	—	—	—
Barra District—M'Carthy's Island.	647	616	1,263	504	404	908	—	—	—	143	212	355
Total	7,306	6,884	14,190	7,215	6,935	14,150	739	938	1,677	830	887	1,717

Education.

There is no Government school in this Settlement. The work of education has been mainly carried on by the religious denominations.

The following particulars are taken from the educational returns rendered by their respective heads:—

Religious Denomination.	Year.	Number of Schools.	Number of Instructors.	Scholars on Register.		Total.	Remarks.
				Males.	Females.		
Wesleyan - -	1883	9	13	294	178	472	
Roman Catholic -	1883	3	10	160	180	340	
Church of England -	1883	1	2	19	23	42	
Total - -	- -	13	25	473	381	854	

In the past there used to be here, as in other Settlements on West Africa, an annual distribution of money to the amount of 300*l.* as far as the Gambia was concerned, to the religious bodies for educational purposes. In July 1882 "An Ordinance (No. 2)" was passed by the local legislature for the promotion and assistance of education in this Settlement.

Although it proved during 1883 that the earnings of the schools under the provisions of this Ordinance did not come up to the wishes of the Government or reach near to the amount of subsidy previously enjoyed by the respective societies, yet better results are hoped for in the future.

Imports and Exports.

The following table shows the value of the imports to and exports from the Gambia in the year 1883 as compared with 1882 :—

Countries.	Imports therefrom.		Exports thereto.	
	1882.	1883.	1882.	1883.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
United Kingdom - -	97,786 9 5	90,139 17 10	35,522 4 2	46,232 13 4
British Colonies - -	20,649 13 5	37,098 15 2	—	1,399 7 10
Foreign Countries - -	55,453 15 7	71,680 12 8	219,188 18 8	160,487 16 1

(*Continued.*)

Countries.	Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
United Kingdom - -	—	7,646 11 7	10,710 9 2	—
British Colonies - -	16,449 1 9	—	1,399 7 10	—
Foreign Countries - -	16,226 17 1	—	—	58,701 2 7

The following figures give the value for the past two years of the principal imports with countries whence brought :—

Articles.	Countries whence Imported.	Quantities.		Value.	
		1882.	1883.	1882.	1883.
				£	£
Cola nuts -	Leeward Coast -	94 baskets and 429,196 lbs.	680,684 lbs.	19,781	32,413
			No.		
Guns and pistols	Great Britain -	305 packages, and 780 No.	5,041	2,657	3,141
	France - -	250 No.	1	105	4
	Windward Coast -	152 No.	44	94	51
	Sierra Leone -	—	5	—	37
	Leeward Coast -	2 No.	10	6	6
Gunpowder -	Great Britain -	5,155 packages and 351 barrels.	1,013½ barrels	1,578	2,062
	Germany - -	—	100 „	—	157
	Wind ward Coast	3 barrels	22 kegs	2	14
	Leeward Coast	—	7 „	—	1
			Packages.		
Hardware -	Great Britain -	163 packages and 49 No.	807	1,035	2,576
	France - -	146 packages	323	472	969
	Germany - -	—	11	—	53
	America - -	1 package	37	2	53
	Windward Coast -	175 packages and 1 No.	186	550	585
	Sierra Leone -	—	15	—	21
	Leeward Coast -	1 package	—	3	—
Haberdashery -	Great Britain -	273 packages and 23 No.	346	2,097	2,641
	France - -	16 packages	68	83	103
	Germany - -	—	25	—	246
	America - -	1 package	—	1	—
	Windward Coast -	14 packages	30	270	158
	Sierra Leone -	—	71	—	239
	Gold Coast - -	—	2	—	7
	Leeward Coast -	58 packages	1	130	10

Articles.	Countries whence Imported.	Quantities. 1882.	Quantities. 1883.	Value. 1882.	Value. 1883.
		Tons cwts. qrs. lbs.	Packages.	£	£
Iron bars	Great Britain	42 1 1 26 and 35 packages	12,804 No.	713	736
	France	99 bundles	700 No. and 278 cwts.	52	183
	Windward Coast	80 packages and 5 No.	316 cwts.	42	166
			Pieces.		
Lumber	Great Britain	364 No.	75	155	72
	France	3,000 ft. and 766 No.	1,908	266	536
	Germany	—	410	—	104
	America	60,175 ft. and 1 piece.	28,033 ft.	262	198
	Windward Coast	79,746 ft. and 12,234 pieces.	107,146 pieces and 92,267 ft.	1,034	1,282
	Sierra Leone	—	2,469 pieces.	—	31
	British West Indies	26,510 ft., and 350 pieces.	—	206	—
		Tons cwts. qrs. lbs.	Packages.		
Provision	Great Britain	2 8 1 24 and 581 packages.	709	1,345	1,508
	France	46 lbs. and 192 packages.	1,096	244	1,094
	Germany	—	36	—	45
	America	4 packages	1,206	10	248
	Windward Coast	427 packages and 10 lbs.	1,108	668	790
	Sierra Leone	—	214	—	110
	Leeward Coast	416 packages.	29	127	11
		Tons cwts. qrs. lbs.			
Rice (Indian)	Great Britain	1,256 17 0 26 and 13,124 bags.	2,582,858 lbs.	16,496	9,980
	France	Tons cwts. qrs. lbs. 107 0 0 20 and 341 bags.	—	1,152	—
	Windward Coast	Tons cwts. qrs. lbs. 49 11 3 24 and 3,544 bags.	30,644 lbs.	2,118	538
	Germany	—	410,180 lbs.	—	2,008
	Sierra Leone	—	42,552 packages and 2 packages.	—	277
	Leeward Coast	—	200 lbs.	--	1
		Tons cwts. qrs. lbs.			
Salt	France	1,039 16 0 8	198 tons and 3,750 bushels.	713	643
	Windward Coast	364 tons and 18,188 bushels.	207 tons	316	115
Ships' apparel	Great Britain	51 packages and 12 coils.	—	556	—
	France	45 packages	—	271	—
	Windward Coast	99 packages and 32 coils.	—	474	—
			Packages.		
Specie	Great Britain	19 packages	17	5,453	5,522
	France	1 package	10	1,000	3,800
	Germany	—	2	—	800
	Leeward Coast	2 packages	—	3,604	—
	Sierra Leone	—	7	—	2,077
	Windward Coast	19 packages	28	5 700	9,332
		Tons cwts. qrs. lbs	Lbs.		
Sugar	Great Britain	4 3 1 24 and 14 barrels.	42,433	236	556
	France	33,161 lbs.	52,378	587	679
	Germany	—	3,480	—	41
	America	988 lbs.	—	15	—
	Windward Coast	60,182 lbs. and 43 packages.	25,651	912	356
	Sierra Leone	—	25	—	15s.
	Leeward Coast	—	1,956	—	19l.
Spirit:— Absinthe	Great Britain	69·8 gallons	—	18	—
	France	1,308·18 gallons and 113 packages.	—	416	—
	Germany	—	—	—	—
	America	—	—	—	—
	Windward Coast	376 gallons and 1 packet.	—	79	—

Articles.	Countries whence Imported.	Quantities. 1882.	Quantities. 1883.	Value. 1882.	Value. 1883.
			Gallons.	£	£
Cordials -	Great Britain -	6 gallons and 32 packets.	164	23	83
	France - -	369·9 gallons	2,633	147	852
	Germany - -	—	166	—	37
	America - -	—	—	—	—
	Windward Coast -	50 packages.	1,081	30	271
Brandy -	Great Britain -	97¼ gallons	136	61	135
	France - -	548 gallons	504	364	391
	Germany - -	—	40	—	12
	Windward Coast -	138 gallons	305	114	234
	Leeward Coast -	3 cases	—	4	—
Geneva - (not sweetened)	Great Britain -	2,179·53 gallons and 2 packages.	5,512	743	663
	France - -	1,006 gallons, and 160 packets.	764	154	129
	Germany - -	—	2,677	—	314
	Windward Coast -	1,409¾ gallons	338	108	75
Rum - -	Great Britain -	26,298·82 gallons, and 4 puncheons	28,554	2,364	2,862
	France - -	241·93 gallons.	13,979	9	1,332
	Germany - -	—	3,354	—	354
	America - -	—	2,993	—	290
	British West Indies	4,063·16 gallons	—	336	—
	Windward Coast -	567·8 gallons 4 puncheons and 20 barrels.	11,070	188	1,200
	Leeward Coast -	—	246	—	30
			Lbs.		
Tobacco - - (manufactured)	Great Britain -	3,070 lbs. and 6 packages.	2,362	222	189
	France - -	243 lbs.	817	38	91
	Germany - -	—	470	—	85
	America - -	757 lbs.	17	48	10
	Windward Coast -	51,737 lbs.	66	1,916	15
	Sierra Leone -	—	188	—	7
	British West Indies	9,825 lbs.	—	287	—
	Leeward Coast -	4 lbs.	—	1	—
Tobacco - - (unmanufactured.)	Great Britain -	5,345 lbs. and 1 parcel.	114,864	1,028	3,115
	France - -	33 lbs.	52,465	6	1,426
	America - -	132,896 lbs.	93,968	3,459	3,301
	Germany - -	—	25,771	—	705
	Windward Coast -	82,042 lbs.	98,229	2,391	2,621
	Leeward Coast -	—	26,422	—	914
	British West Indies	750 lbs.	—	19	—
Wine - -	Great Britain -	1,723·38 gallons and 31 packages.	1,905	635	874
	France - -	210,916 gallons and 55 packages.	13,244	2,501	1,891
	Germany - -	—	630	—	107
	Windward Coast -	10,135·29 gallons and 2 packets.	7,703	1,273	1,402
	Sierra Leone -	—	2	—	1
	Leeward Coast -	⅓	—	2*s.* 6*d.*	—

Principal Exports and their Value from the Gambia for the last two years.

Articles.	Countries to which Exported.	Quantities. 1882.	Quantities. 1883.	Value. 1882.	Value. 1883.
		Tons.	Tons.	£	£
Ground nuts -	Great Britain -	3,256	4,178	29,306	34,502
	France - -	16,833	16,707	151,496	119,202
	Spain - -	267	—	2,399	—
	Holland - -	2,399	—	21,587	—
	Italy -	1,057	1,292	9,510	9,505
	America -	273	157	2,457	1,321
	Madeira - -	—	653	—	5,000
	Windward Coast -	1,439	—	12,496	—
	Goree - -	No separate heading	107	—	634
		25,524	23,094	229,701	170,164

Articles.	Countries to which Exported.	Quantities.		Value.	
		1882.	1882.	1882.	1883.
		Tons.	Tons.	£	£
Hides -	Great Britain -	—	726	—	201
	France - -	7,242	8,162	1,448	1,984
	Italy - -	481	—	96	—
	America - -	3,128	—	626	—
	Windward Coast -	578	2,634	116	772
	Goree - -	No separate heading	3,956	—	1,182
	Leeward Coast -	—	680	—	166
		11,429	16,158	2,286	4,305
		Tons.	Tons.	£	£
Palm kernels -	Great Britain -	18	25	337	235
	France - -	326	117	772	989
	Italy - -	11	—	132	—
	Windward Coast -	3	—	29	—
		358	142	1,270	1,224
			Cwts.	£	£
Rubber - -	Great Britain -	2 packages and 4 cwts.	373	114	5,107
	France - -	—	40	—	361
	Goree - -	—	52	—	580
		2 packages and 4 cwts.	465	114	6,048
		Tons.	Tons.	£	£
Wax - -	Great Britain -	15	27	1,842	2,390
	France - -	4	25	329	1,638
	Windward Coast -	96 packages and 3 tons.	—	820	—
	Goree - -	No separate heading	8	—	600
		22 tons and 96 packages.	60	2,991	4,628

Shipping.

The total number of sailing vessels entered for 1883 was 273, with a tonnage of 28,838, and crews which amounted to 1,760. In the previous year the numbers under like headings were 160, 29,181, 1,289.

Of the vessels entered 75 were British and 198 foreign.

Of the gross tonnage (28,838) 25,674 were foreign.

The nationality of these vessels is hereunder given :—

Nationality of Vessel.	Total.		
	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.
British - - - -	75	3,164	398
French - - - -	163	12,417	1,002
Portuguese - - -	3	132	18
Italian - - - -	22	9,917	250
German - - - -	1	239	8
Austrian - - -	2	960	22
Greek - - - -	2	486	15
American - - -	5	1,523	47
Total - -	273	28,838	1,760

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The total number of sailing vessels cleared were 266 with a tonnage of 29,399 and crews who numbered 1,706.

The nationality of these vessels is in each case hereunder given :—

Nationality of Vessel.	Total.		
	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.
British - - - -	73	2,878	378
French - - - -	159	3,258	988
Portuguese - - -	2	116	12
Italian - - - -	22	9,939	240
German - - - -	2	456	14
Austrian - - -	2	960	23
Greek - - - -	1	269	7
American - - -	5	1,523	44
Total - -	266	29,399	1,706

The total number of steam vessels entered was 62 with gross tonnage of 52,393 and 1,924 hands in crews. Of this number 18 were foreign steam vessels with tonnage of 7,802 and hands 314.

There cleared during the year 58 steamers with gross tonnage represented by 50,719 and crews who numbered 1,825.

The following table will afford particulars of nationality of steamers entered and cleared :—

Nationality of Steam Vessels.	Total Entered.			Total Cleared.		
	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.
British - - - -	44	44,591	1,610	41	42,924	1,522
French - - - -	15	6,551	268	14	6,544	258
Italian - - - -	2	6,226	37	2	1,226	36
Belgian - - - -	1	25	9	1	25	9
Total - - -	62	52,393	1,924	58	50,719	1,825

Gaols and Prisoners.

The total number of persons committed in 1883 was 127 as against 102 in 1882.

Of the former number 112 were men, nine women, and six juveniles. The figures under corresponding heads in 1882 were 92, five, and five. The cost of the maintenance of the gaols during the year was—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Establishments - - - -	271	17	7
Exclusive of establishments - -	369	17	6

There were two escapes, 12 floggings by cat, and 4 by birch rod. The latter whipping had reference to others than prisoners and represented an irregularity as to place of punishment which has been discontinued.

A tabulated statement is appended showing the number of committals yearly for the period 1873–83.

Year.	Total Number of Persons Committed.	For Debt.	For safe Custody, or want of Bail.	For purposes of Penal Punishment.	Daily average Number in Prison.	Number of Admissions to Hospital.	Daily Average on Sick List.	Number of Deaths.
1873	194	14	46	134	27	48	5	6
1874	192	2	59	65	40	34	4	6
1875	182	1	22	159	37	26	2	3
1876	166	2	38	126	28	28	3	10
1877	144	14	35	147	33	18	2	7
1878	140	5	18	117	38	21	1	4
1879	120	4	10	114	38	20	2	2
1880	135	4	40	108	45	9	1	4
1881	105	5	22	78	47	21	2	6
1882	102	3	15	84	29	18	1	3
1883	127	7	22	98	28	49	2	4

Criminal Statistics.

The following particulars will admit of comparison between 1882 and 1883:—

Year.	Total Number of Offences reported.	Offences against the Person.	Larceny.	Offences to Property other than prædial Larceny.	Other Offences.
1882 -	383	127	85	20	151
1883 -	510	154	109	33	214

Apprehensions and Summonses, and Disposition of foregoing Cases.

Year.	Number discharged for want of Prosecution or Evidence.	Number of Cases dismissed on the Merits.	Number of Persons summarily convicted.	Number of Persons committed for Trial in the Superior Courts.
1882 - -	116	68	161	38
1883 - -	162	109	222	17

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Detail of Summary Convictions.

Year.	Assaults and other Offences against the Person.	Malicious Injuries to Property.	Larceny.	Other Offences to Property.	Offences to Acts relating to Social Economy of Gambia.	Offences to Masters and Servants Acts.	Other Offences.	Total.
1882	53	—	25	—	3	—	80	161
1883	70	—	54	4	—	8	86	222

Punishments in connexion with foregoing.

Year.	Fine.	Imprisonment in lieu of Fine or Surety.	Peremptory Imprisonment.	Whipping.	Bound over with or without Sureties or other minor Punishment.	Total.
1882	82	9	41	13	16	161
1883	102	13	84	10	13	222

Indictments and Informations in the Superior Courts.

Year.	Murder, other than Wife and Child murder.	Manslaughter.	Attempt to Murder.	Rape.	Other Offences to the Person.	Malicious injury to Property.	Murder of Wife.	Robbery with Violence.	Larceny.	Other offences against Property.	Miscellaneous Offences.	Total.	Remarks.
1882	—	1	—	—	4	—	—	—	21	12	—	38	
1883	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	3	11	1	17	

Statement as to ending of Cases tried in the Superior Courts.

Year.	Judgment for the Crown.	Judgment for the Prisoners.	Prisoner found Insane.	Cases fell through for want of Prosecution.	Total.	Remarks.
1882 - -	16	11	—	11	38	
1883 - -	8	4	—	5	17	

The number of apprehensions, convictions, and acquittals for the last four years is stated in the following comparative table :—

Headings.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.
Apprehensions - -	502	427	383	510
Convictions - -	255	197	177	230
Acquittals - -	247	230	206	280

The increased powers extended to the police court under Ordinance No. 5 of 1882 admitted of cases being tried and decided there which previously had to go to the upper court, and thus the statistical decrease as regards the latter may be in a measure accounted for.

The total number of offences reported in 1882 and 1883 stood at 383 and 510, showing an excess of 127 in the latter year.

There were increases under "offences against the person" of 27, under "larceny" of 24, under "offences against property "other than larceny" of 13.

The following table of analysis of "crimes under other offences" will admit of comparison of causes of increase of 63 thereunder in 1883 as against 1882.

Year.	Abusive or Indecent Language and inciting to a Breach of the Peace.	Drunk and Disorderly.	Escaped from Custody.	Exposing Goods for Sale, and Killing elsewhere than in Public Market.	Carrying Palm Wine without permit.	Breach of Prison Discipline.	Keeping Gunpowder above quantity allowed in Shop.	Exposing Gunpowder in Street.	Threats.	Dispute in Society.	Nuisance.
1882	33	17	3	7	8	21	3	1	3	1	—
1883	43	17	—	17	23	48	—	1	10	3	1

(*Continued.*)

Year.	Harbouring Apprentices.	Galloping furiously.	Neglecting Work.	Fighting.	Not Stating quantity of Ballast Customs.	Disorderly Noises.	Cruelty to Animals.	Refusing to fence Lot.	Holding Communication before pratique.
1882	3	1	1	8	11	—	—	—	—
1883	5	3	—	30	7	2	2	1	1

GAMBIA.

Hospitals and Asylum.

During 1883 there were admitted into the Colonial hospital 283 patients of whom 242 were males and 41 females. These figures show an increase of 75 patients (68 males, 7 females) over the numbers returned for 1882.

Thirty-two deaths took place in the hospital during the year compared with 30 in previous year.

The principal diseases treated were debility, indigestion, rheumatism, ulcers, wounds, and affection of the brain, lungs, and the generative organs.

The total cost of the Medical Department to the Government for 1883 was—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Establishments - - - -	995	0	4
Exclusive of establishments - -	547	8	3

The receipts for maintenance of sick in hospital during the year were 82*l.* 4*s.* 2*d.*

The hospital records as hitherto kept do not afford particulars of the number of outdoor patients treated.

There are returned 5,158 cases in 1882 and 6,882 cases in 1883. These figures are misleading, as it might be inferred therefrom that a corresponding number of different patients had received out-door relief whereas they represent treatments. The population of the island of St. Mary in 1881 was only 6,138, and it has not been shown to me that visits from the other parts of the Settlement have been many. More satisfactory and clear information will in future, I hope, be rendered.

General Remarks.

I assumed the administration of the Government of this Settlement in March of the current year, which will, I trust, serve as an apology for so late a transmission of this report and will explain why I have confined myself to brief remarks under the chief headings of information which go to make up the Blue Book for 1883.

It will be my duty to express myself more fully, and with the support of some local experience, on the position of the Settlement on the Gambia, more especially as regards its commercial resources and their development, in my report on the Blue Book for the current year.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ALFRED MOLONEY,
Administrator

His Excellency
The Governor-in-Chief.
&c. &c. &c.
Sierra Leone.

GIBRALTAR.

No. 14.

Governor Sir J. M. ADYE, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY, K.G.

MY LORD, Gibraltar, February 28, 1885.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the Blue Book of Gibraltar for the year 1884, with a report by the Colonial Secretary thereon.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN ADYE,
General and Governor.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Derby,
&c. &c.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Gibraltar,
February 27, 1885.

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

I HAVE the honour to submit the Blue Book for 1884, together with the customary report.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GIFFORD,
Colonial Secretary.

His Excellency
General Sir John M. Adye, R.A., G.C.B.,
Governor.

Finance.

The actual revenue received was Pts. 1,147,617 (45,904*l.*), and the expenditure Pts. 1,278,383 (51,135*l.*), being an excess of Pts. 130,766 (5,236*l.*) over actual revenue. To meet this deficit, however, there was a credit balance on 1st January 1884 of Pts. 83,485 (3,339*l.*), and invested funds to the extent of Pts. 50,461 (2,018*l.*) were realised.

The total transactions on the revenue side amounted to Pts. 1,415,661 (56,626*l.*), and on the expenditure side to Pts. 1,409,430 (56,377*l.*) leaving a credit balance in the Colonial chest of Pts. 6,231 (249*l.*) which sum was verified by a Board of Survey on 1st January 1885.

Comparing the revenue of 1884 with that of the previous year, the figures respectively are Pts. 1,147,617 (45,904*l.*) and Pts. 1,219,026 (48,761*l.*), a decrease is therefore exhibited of

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Pts. 71,409 (2,857*l.*). This is easily accounted for by the fact that quarantine was rigidly enforced, during three months of the year, against vessels arriving from Italy and the southern ports of France and her possessions in the Mediterranean, whilst interest on invested funds shows a decrease of Pts. 1,0287 (411*l.*). Trade generally was somewhat paralysed during the year, being further decreased by the quarantine restrictions; in consequence, several heads of receipt show a somewhat corresponding decrease. This decrease would have been larger had it not been for the New Tariff Order in Council which came into force during the last quarter, which increased the receipts on wines and malt liquor, a duty of ½*d.* per gallon being levied on this latter article for the first time, whilst wharfage and other vexatious little dues were abolished. The port charges were also readjusted.

The expenditure for 1884 amounted to Pts. 1,278,383 (51,135*l.*) against Pts. 1,328,639 (54,145*l.*) of the previous year, showing a decrease of Pts. 50,255 (2,010*l.*). This is accounted for by a reduction of expenditure in public works and by great care being exercised that no expenditure unless absolutely necessary was incurred; notwithstanding this the revenue for the year was not sufficient to meet the expenditure, and a sum of Pts. 50,440 (2,000*l.*) was realised. It was not possible to reduce the expenses further, as contracts had been entered into in previous years and works commenced which had to be completed accordingly to the terms of the contract.

Public Debt.

There is no public debt.

Crown Lands.

An unwillingness still exists amongst the public to renew their leases and to build. This may be attributable to the cost of building materials and cartage, which is excessive, and to the fact that house property realises but rarely 6 per cent. per annum profit on the outlay, whilst, again, as I remarked last year, capital is diverted to Linea because labour and material is cheaper and no restriction is placed upon the style or class of house that is about to be built. The subject of the conditions for building and other leases is now receiving the attention of his Excellency the Governor and the Crown Land Board.

Legislation.

The following laws were passed during the year:—

Ordinance No. 1 of the 23rd of February.—To regulate the importation of petroleum and other explosive substances in Gibraltar.

Order in Council of the 27th of February, extending statute laws of England to Gibraltar.

Ordinance No. 2 of the 28th of February.—To prevent the landing of stowaways in Gibraltar.

Ordinance No. 3 of the 29th of March.—To amend the Gibraltar Savings Bank Ordinance, 1881.

Ordinance No. 4 of the 1st of September.—To provide for the management of the Lunatic Asylum.

Order in Council to consolidate and amend the laws under which certain fees, duties, and charges are at present levied and collected in Gibraltar to, and for the use of, Her Majesty, her heirs, and successors.

Ordinance No. 5 of the 24th of October.—To provide for the organisation, discipline, powers, and duties of the police force of Gibraltar.

Ordinance No. 6 of the 27th October.—To amend the Sanitary Order in Council, Gibraltar, 1883.

The most important piece of legislation carried out was the Tariff Order in Council consolidating and amending the laws relating to the collection of revenue. During the previous year a committee, consisting of the Colonial Secretary, Lord Gifford, B. Carver, Esq., Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce, H. Schott, Esq., Chairman of the Exchange Committee, M. Bergel, Esq., one of the principal merchants, and A. Patterson, Esq., an old resident and for many years in the Government Service, were nominated to report upon the expediency of altering and amending the fees, duties, and charges levied and paid in Gibraltar under the Revenue Order of 1848.

The Committee reported their views, and, with some modifications proposed by the Governor, their suggestions were adopted and the Revenue Order in Council was passed. Up to the present date the law has been found to work satisfactorily, and the measure is generally looked upon as fair and just, not pressing unduly upon any section of the community.

By this law the payment of wages due to labourers in taverns and other licensed houses is prohibited, whilst penalties are imposed on any person found dealing in intoxicating liquors that have been previously adulterated.

An Ordinance regulating the importation of petroleum and other explosive substances was passed.

By an amending Savings Bank Ordinance more attractive terms were offered to persons desirous of depositing money in the Government Savings Bank. The consequence is that the bank is in a more flourishing and satisfactory condition than heretofore, as persons are now permitted to deposit one peseta (9*d.*) and withdraw at any time a like amount.

No legal provision existed for the organisation and discipline of the police force, which was established in 1830. The want of an Ordinance defining the powers and duties of the civil police had long been felt, as well as one to provide for the discipline of

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the Force. On the subject being brought under the notice of his Excellency the Governor, an Ordinance was passed with the approval of the Secretary of State, called, "An Ordinance to "provide for the organisation, discipline, powers, and duties of "the Civil Police Force of Gibraltar."

A law was also passed providing for the confinement and discharge of lunatics.

On the recommendation of the Governor, an Ordinance was passed amending in certain particulars the Sanitary Order in Council of 1883. By this measure the Government has received the services of civilians on the Board, and up to the present time the law has been found to work satisfactorily.

A number of proclamations were issued during the year, but they related chiefly to the orders of the Board of Health, in consequence of the epidemic of cholera that prevailed in the towns and ports of the Mediterranean.

Public Health.

The public health for the past year has been satisfactory, and though cholera prevailed virulently in many of the Mediterranean ports, happily the disease did not make its appearance in Gibraltar. There were a few cases of small-pox at the commencment of the year, but the disease was stamped out in the first quarter. The Officer of Health reports that "the death-rate was only 18·8 per "1,000 for the fixed civil population, which contrasts favourably "with that for the years 1883 and 1882, when it was 24·3 and "28·6 per thousand."

Criminal Statistics.

The number of summary convictions before the Police Magistrate was 1,000, being 279 more than in 1883, and before the Captain of the Port, 42, being one in excess of the number in 1883. These cases were principally for minor offences, and the increase may be fairly attributed to the number of aliens dealt with by the Police Magistrate under the "Aliens Order in Council" during the imposition of the sanitary "cordon" for three months by the Spaniards.

There were only four cases tried before the Supreme Court, namely, one for murder, one for an offence against property, and two for offences against the person. The murder case was a bad one, and a verdict of guilty was obtained.

Works and Buildings.

Civil Hospital.—Considerable progress was made in the work of reconstruction. The dispensary or administration block was completed and occupied. Practically it may be said that the only portion of the original design not accomplished is the reconstruction of the female wards and general kitchen in the second block, though the latrines for this block have been commenced.

The new pumping station.—in Southport Ditch, with condensers, has almost been completed, and will be in operation during 1885. During the summer of 1884 a great public demand was made upon the condensers for drinking water. The condensing was undertaken by the Sanitary Commissioners, who were able to sell the water at about one farthing per gallon, to the immense advantage of the poorer classes and the public in general.

Small-Pox Hospital, North Front.—This small, permanent, isolated hospital was completed, and the Health Officer's report for 1884 states that since its use not a single case of small-pox has followed upon the landing of patients from the shipping and their treatment in the detached building, and adds that it would be difficult to produce stronger testimony to administrative forethought.

Casemate Square.—The formation of a second gateway upon the principal thoroughfare has been completed and has constituted an improvement of great value, relieving the busy traffic where most impeded.

Waterport Wharf.—Here the formation of a separate passenger entrance through the fortification's walls has been commenced. The dangers of only one narrow entrance for carts and foot-passengers has long been the subject of complaint which this work is intended to remedy. The extension and improvement of the wharf itself is under the consideration of his Excellency the Governor, should funds be available.

Dredging.—This work comprises the dredging of the inner harbour at the Waterport. It was commenced and suspended owing to insufficiency of funds, and the work is to be resumed in the spring. Ten years had elapsed since any dredging was performed, and the work had become one of necessity.

Petty Works.—The usual services of maintenance and petty works and repairs were carried out in an efficient and satisfactory manner.

Sanitary Commission.

During 1884 the following works were executed under the Commissioners' orders:—

A new refuse shoot with furnace was constructed on the east side of the rock, for the disposal of town refuse, at a cost of about 676*l.*

Automatic flush tanks were provided on the principal lines of sewers in the south district.

The south district was provided with road-side watering valves so the roads may be watered by hand.

Extra flushing of drains and extra scavenging were actively performed as precautionary measures during the prevalence of cholera in the Mediterranean littoral.

The rising main from the Southport Ditch engines to the Moorish Castle tanks was laid and tested ready for use.

A defective sewer in Secretary's Lane was rectified and completely relaid at a cost of 100*l.*, and two new manholes were formed on the main sewer.

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Education.

Schools (Elementary Poor) Education Code, regulating grants, was revised and modified with the sanction of the Secretary of State.

Average attendance increased from 1,219 to 1,367, though there was no proportionate increase in school accommodation.

Aided by a grant of 500*l.*, from Her Majesty's revenue the Roman Catholic School Committee have constructed a fine building intended to accommodate 80 children.

One new infant school at St. Joseph's was opened with an average attendance of 40, though the room was found only to be fitted for 25 infants. This was impressed upon the Committee, who submitted plans for an improved school.

The effect of the modified code of grants, combined with a slight improvement in the schools themselves, has been to raise the grant from 16*s.* 6½*d.* to 20*s.* 3*d.* per scholar.

The Inspector reports that he observes some improvement throughout the school, and that on the whole their efficiency has increased.

Port.

Notwithstanding the quarantine restrictions which operated unfavourably against vessels calling, the number of steamships that cleared during the year amounted to 5,108, representing 4,483,587 tons, whilst 960 sailing vessels, representing 125,693 tons, cleared.

The coal trade, which may be said to be the chief one of Gibraltar, has been brisk, and applications continue to be received for coal-hulks, of which there are 33.

Imports and Exports.

The import of wines and spirits considerably increased over that of the previous year.

The export of tobacco shows a considerable decrease. In 1883 there were exported 81 hogsheads and 17,242 cwts., whilst in 1884 only 39 hogsheads and 14,670 cwts. were (exported).

General Remarks.

If quarantine had not been imposed, notwithstanding the depression of trade generally, the year might be said to have been a favourable one.

It may be here remarked that it is hoped that the new tariff and the absence of quarantine during the present year may raise the Colony from its straitened circumstances.

(Signed) GIFFORD,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Gibraltar, 27th February 1885.

HELIGOLAND.

No. 15.

Governor T. O'BRIEN to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY, K.G.

MY LORD, Heligoland, February 25, 1885.

IN forwarding for your consideration the annual Blue Book returns of this Colony for the year 1884, prepared under the supervision of Mr. Gätke, Government Secretary, I would beg to observe :—

General Remarks.

The principal political event of importance is, I regret to say, the refusal of Her Majesty's Government to construct a harbour, the natural result of which is to reduce and even to prevent the extension of our only industry capable of expansion—fishing.

The second visit of the Reserve Squadron of nine ironclads under Sir A. Hoskins was again a marked event of last year, the good conduct and smartness of the men landed was lauded by all, and led to a hope that such visits would be repeated, if only to cement the bonds now existing between the Colony and the Royal Navy, into which some six young Heligolanders have entered within the last 18 months. It is to be regretted that Heligoland was not taken at the end instead of at the commencement of the cruise, so as to have coincided more with the season and the better weather generally prevalent later on. We have had several visits from German men-of-war, and on one or two occasions the fleet anchored in our roads.

Legislation.

Six Ordinances were passed and brought into force during the year.

No. 1. To enable the Governor to appoint temporary trustees for widows, minors, and absentees in cases when it is inexpedient for the permanent trustees to act.

No. 2. To place the tax hitherto paid by visitors towards the provision of their amusements (band, theatre, &c., &c.) on a better and more liberal footing.

No. 3. To license boats and waterman to ensure the safety and comfort of the visitors.

No. 4. To raise the import dues on spirits to cover the extra cost of mail communication.

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No. 5. To enable the Governor to appoint on vacancy a judge to the Matrimonial and Divorce Court.

No. 6. To prohibit the sale of spirituous liquors to habitual drunkards.

Sources of Revenue.

As the Island gets better known for its salubrity and incomparable bathing, and as the facilities of communication are augmented, so, I am happy to say, goes on the increase in our visitors, the number of whom rose in 1884 to 10,089, being an increase of 1,667 on the number (8,422) in 1883. Doubtless something may be put down to the existence of cholera in southern Europe, which drove more travellers to the north, though I do not suppose these count for many.

With our increased visitors it follows all our sources of revenue have gone up, for as the year's fishing (both sea and lobster) was much worse than usual, our prosperity, so much over the average, is due to the bathing season alone.

Revenue.

The revenue has risen from M. 148,248 in the previous to M. 166,727 last year, and I am happy to say 1884 is the first year for very many where the direct general receipts of the bathing establishment exceeded the expenditure, most of this is doubtless due to the fact that, though in some years it has been impossible for the visitors to cross over and bathe on Sandy Island for sometimes 20 days, last year there were but four on which the ferry was stopped.

Expenditure.

With more visitors a higher outlay was necessary, hence the expenditure of 1884 was M. 154,011; the greater prosperity of the Island however enabled me to devote larger sums to the preservation of Sandy Island on which the living of every Heligolander depends, so this increases the amount under this head.

Trade.

The Imports from the United Kingdom by Trinity House and Coast Guard vessels figure for the first time in the Blue Book, all general supplies, however, from England and elsewhere are drawn as formerly from the Continent with which increased steam communication existed last year.

Civil Service.

A new Rector, Dr. St. Brody, took the place of the Rev. H. Niepmann, head master of the schools; Dr. E. Lindemann replaced Dr. Schwarz, who resigned his situation as Government

Medical Officer, and Mr. K. N. Michels, Treasurer and Bathing Director, took over the clerical, while Mr. P. Botter, Clerk of Courts, undertook the outdoor duties of the Town Clerkship on the dismissal of Mr. Black.

Public Works.

Though the outlay is M. 154,011 . 42, the sum has principally been expended on the usual up-keep of streets, buildings, &c., except that I have devoted a larger amount than usual (M. 6,069) to improving Sandy Island.

Public Debt.

I am glad to say that I have been enabled to reduce the amount by M. 12,998.

Public Health.

Has been good, there have been 39* deaths, averaging 50·3 years of age, against 48 births. I can here but reiterate my opinion, based now on longer experience, that Heligoland could render invaluable services as a sanitarium to officers and men who had suffered from exposure in tropical or other service.

Education.

I wish I could report favourably on this point. Unfortunately a conflict among the staff necessitated a Court of Inquiry, which revealed a highly reprehensible state of things; the number of children in school, the only one in the Island, attendance on which is compulsory, was 353, a number too large for the staff and for the building, as reported by one of Her Majesty's Inspectors; the Colony, however, has not means enough to increase the permanent charges for the former, or to meet the heavy outlay necessary to increase the accommodation in the latter, built by England in former years. There are no special classes for girls, nor was any teaching in sewing, &c. provided till three years ago. Since I have been here, I have defrayed the expenses of a sewing school out of my own pocket; it is attended by about 60 children.

Crime.

Though there is the usual absence of crime throughout the Island, there has been last year one serious exception, of a man committed for criminal abuse of a child; he has been sentenced to prison and now awaits his transfer to England under the Colonial Prisoners Removal Act (47 & 48 Vict. c. 31).

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* *See* table at end.

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Postal Savings Bank.

An Ordinance establishing this institution was promulgated in March 1883. This at first was looked upon with such suspicion by these primitive people, who imagined it was a covert way of obtaining an insight into their means for the purpose of taxation, that none but children became depositors ; now, however, adults are gradually investing their savings, and I cannot but hope that such an institution will have a beneficial moral effect in inculcating habits of thrift and economy among our population. The total number of depositors at the end of 1884 was 147, and the amount in deposit was M. 9,419 . 90, of this M. 6,480 was invested last year.

Final Remarks.

Though the results of last year were exceptionally good, yet I fear I cannot hope that the prosperity of Heligoland rests on any firmer basis than formerly, all depends on the bathing season,—a war, depression of trade, or the weather even, all affect it, without any hope of a remedy now that that of a harbour is gone, while the hourly dread that Sandy Island may be washed away on which their all depends (which fate I fear is not far distant) does not enable me to add any brighter touches to this favourable financial picture of the results of 1884.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. (Signed) T. O'BRIEN, Lieut.-Col.,
The Earl of Derby, K.G., Governor.
&c. &c.

Statement of Mortality in Heligoland in decimal periods for the Years—

	1883.	1884.
0 to 10 years - - - - -	2·	6·
10 „ 20 „ - - - - -	None	None
20 „ 30 „ - - - - -	1·	2·
30 „ 40 „ - - - - -	2·	3·
40 „ 50 „ - - - - -	2·	3·
50 „ 60 „ - - - - -	8·	5·
60 „ 70 „ - - - - -	7·	3·
70 „ 80 „ - - - - -	7·	7·
80 „ 90 „ - - - - -	2·	4·
90 „ 100 „ - - - - -	1·	1·
Premature and unknown - - -	1·	5·

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No. 16.

Governor Sir J. POPE HENNESSY, K.C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY, K.G.

Government House, Mauritius,
November 25, 1884.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the Blue Book of this Colony for 1883 and a report upon it by Mr. H. N. D. Beyts, C.M.G., the Acting Colonial Secretary.

2. In forwarding the Blue Book and Report on the past year, I may add that Her Majesty's Government have removed a source of long existing discontent by conceding a considerable share of local government to the inhabitants.

3. The Queen's appointment of a Mauritian Chief Justice, for the first time since the British occupation, has also caused widespread satisfaction.

4. The favourable decisions which have come from Downing Street with respect to the afforestation of the Northern end of the island, the plan for getting a supply of pure water from the upland springs, some measures for relieving the poorer classes from taxation and from the imposition of severe penalties, as well as the Ordinance enabling advances to be made to planters to pay the cost of immigration, the abolition of trade licenses and the encouragement your Lordship has given to tobacco cultivation, all this has put the community in better spirits to face the grave crisis through which—in common with the other sugar-producing colonies—Mauritius is passing.

5. Apart from any benefit that may be gained by securing the good will of the people,—the re-establishment of the elective system and the giving to the elected members the chief power in the future administration of local affairs will be of assistance to the Secretary of State and conduce to good government.

6. Unlike any other Crown Colony, Mauritius has a long settled and resident population of the European family. It has also a highly intelligent and patriotic middle class of mixed races that love their island and are proud of being called creoles of Mauritius.

7. The Mauritians remember with satisfaction that under an elective system this island passed an Ordinance in the last century

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abolishing race distinction, and that of all the Colonies now under the British Crown it was the first to embody in a legislative act the principles of free trade. The Royal College of Mauritius, which has played so distinguished a part in the history of Colonial education, was founded by the Assembly in 1791.

8. The first British Governor, Sir Robert Farquhar, in deploring the decline of prosperity in the harbour of Port Louis that followed on the rigid application of our then defective navigation laws, recorded more than once in his despatches that the only hope he had of restoring the prosperity of Mauritius was by returning to the enlightened commercial system which had been established under the Colonial Assembly.

9. In short the sound traditions that are still preserved of their old elective body, are not in any way opposed to the generous policy that Her Majesty's Government have now adopted.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. POPE HENNESSY.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Derby, K. G.,
&c. &c.

REPORT on the MAURITIUS BLUE BOOK for 1883.

I.—TAXATION.

The following changes were made in 1883 in the taxes of the Colony:—

(*a.*) By Ordinance No. 18 of 1883 the Governor was empowered to reduce the pilot-dues chargeable on steamers entering the harbour of Port Louis solely for the purpose of taking coals, provisions, or water, from 12 cents. of a rupee to 6 cents. of a rupee per ton.

(*b.*) The following light-dues were made leviable by Ordinance No. 23 of 1883:—(1) for the Basses Light, 7½ cents. of a rupee per ton; (2) for the Minicoy Light, 2½ cents. of a rupee per ton.

(*c.*) By Ordinance No. 25 of 1883 the importation of Gandia was permitted on payment of a customs duty of 20 rupees per kilogram; and the retail sale of Gandia was made lawful under licenses issuable to a farmer, and paid for at the rate of rupees 20 each.

(*d.*) Ordinance 26 of 1883 exempted the following classes of traders from payment of licence duties:—

1. Sellers of bread and cakes in markets.
2. Sellers of bread and cakes elsewhere.

3. Hawkers of bread and cakes.
4. Hawkers of bread and poultry.
5. Sellers of vegetables and fruit in markets.
6. Sellers of vegetables and fruit elsewhere.
7. Hawkers of vegetables and fruits.
8. Sellers of fish, shrimps, and shell-fish in markets.
9. Hawkers of dairy produce.
10. Hawkers of fish, shrimps, and shell-fish in the country districts.
11. Fishermen.
12. Washermen and laundresses.

(*e.*) The taxes leviable on animals and vehicles in Port Louis were transferred to the Municipal Corporation of Port Louis by Ordinance No. 28 of 1883.

(*f.*) The cultivation of tobacco in the Colony was freed from all taxation, by Ordinance No. 29 of 1883.

Under the law previously in force a tax of Rs. 160 per arpent was leviable on the land under tobacco cultivation, and the area under such cultivation had fallen to 34 arpents.

II.—Revenue and Expenditure.

	Rs.
The revenue of 1883 amounted to - -	8,892,655
The aggregate expenditure for 1883 was -	8,379,344
The surplus of revenue was - -	513,311

The aggregate revenue was Rs. 408,995 less than that of 1882. The decrease was chiefly due to a falling off in registration dues and stamp duties, owing to the formation of fewer sugar estate companies, and to a smaller amount of sinking fund having been release by the conversion of railway debentures.

The decreases resulting from the above causes were partly counterbalanced by the following increases:—

	Rs.
Customs - - - -	94,115
Licenses and permits - - -	127,334
Railway traffic - - -	157,294

III.—Assets and Liabilities.

At the close of the year 1883 the assets of the Colony amounted to Rs. 5,301,178, and its liabilities exclusive of railway debts, to Rs. 1,289,760. The excess of assets over liabilities was Rs. 4,011,418.

IV.—RAILWAY DEBTS.

The railway debts stood as follows, on the 31st December, 1883:—

	£
Mauritius railways 6 per cent. expiring 1895–1896 (Ordinance 15 of 1864) -	240,900
Savanne railway 4½ per cent. (Ordinance 10 of 1879) - - - -	98,000
Moka Railway 4½ per cent. (Ordinance 6 of 1879) - - - - -	105,000
Consolidated 4 per cent. (Ordinance 10 of 1879) - - - - -	309,600
Total - - -	753,500

V.—CURRENCY.

The amount of currency notes in circulation was Rs. 3,381,600. The assets of the Commissioners of currency consisted of:—

	Rs.
a.—Specie in reserve - - -	1,837,350
b.—Investments in England - -	1,872,424
	3,709,774
Excess of assets over liabilities.	328,174

VI.—SAVINGS-BANK.

The deposits of 1883 amounted to Rs. 1,345,015; which is Rs. 97,053 above the amount received in 1882. The total sum standing to the credit of depositors, including the interest due to them for 1883, was Rs. 3,294,611. Of this sum, Rs. 1,716,898 belonged to Indians. The number of depositors had increased from 15,450 in 1882 to 16,399 in 1883:—7,779 of these belonged to the Indian Population.

VII.—CURATELLE.

The deposits including interest amounted to Rs. 362,594. The assets consisted of the following sums:—

	Rs.
(*a.*) Cash-balances in local chartered banks - - - -	150,472
(*b.*) Invested in England - -	210,646
(*c.*) In hands of Crown Agents - -	1,476
Total -	362,594

VIII.—FINANCIAL CONDITION OF THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF PORT LOUIS.

	Rs.
Balance on hand 1st January 1883 -	17,286.66
Receipts during 1883 - -	760,082.75
	777,369.41
Payments during 1883 - -	721,506.01
Balance on hand 31st December 1883	55,863.40

Debenture Debt of the Municipal Corporation.

	Principal.	Interest.	Total.
	£	£	£
1884 - - - -	21,840	7,660	29,500
1885 - - - -	36,700	5,227	41,927
1886 - - - -	13,080	3,715	16,795
1887 - - - -	10,760	2,840	13,600
1888 - - - -	30,200	1,370	31,570
1889 - - - -	9,240	116	9,356
	121,820	20,928	142,748

Sinking Fund on hand 31st December, 1883, Rs. 39,977.55.

IX.—MILITARY EXPENDITURE.

The military contribution paid by the Colony in 1883 amounted to Rs. 196,999.94.

The troops in the Colony at the end of the year (1883) were as follows:—

Staff - - - - -	10
Artillery - - - - -	102
Infantry - - - - -	301
Engineers - - - - -	13
Ordnance Store Corps - - -	2
Corps of Ordnance Artificers - -	1
Hospital Corps - - - -	13
Total - -	442

The Imperial military expenditure amounted to £ 38,626.15.9

X.—IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

Exclusive of specie and bullion, the value of the imports amounted to Rs. 27,415,272, and that of the exports to Rs. 37,970,500.

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In 1882 the imports were valued at Rs. 39,304,533 and the exports at Rs. 27,697,959,—exclusive of specie and bullion.

The rate of imports and exports per head of population was as follows during 1882 and 1883:—

	Imports.	Exports.
	Rs.	Rs.
1882	78.24	111.24
1883	76.70	108.84

Exports of sugar decreased to the amount of 1,282,022 kilograms:—

	Kilograms.
1882	118,702,278
1883	117,420,256
Decrease	1,282,022

The value of the sugar exported also shows a decrease:—

	Value.
	Rs.
1882	35,129,715.83
1883	34,851,222.10
	278,493.73

The value of the other products exported was as follows:—

	1882.	1883.
	Rs.	Rs.
Rum	806,331	512,985.09
Vanilla	380,997	406,957.00
Aloe-fibre	471,101	345,906.84

XI.—SHIPPING.

Under this head the year 1883 shows the following differences compared with 1882:—

	1882.	1883.	Increase.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Inwards	274,702	330,412	55,710
Outwards	275,869	326,806	50,937

XII.—Population.

The estimated population on 31st December 1883 was as follows:—

Males - - - - -	206,797
Females - - - - -	154,297
	361,094

which is 1,772 more than the estimated population at the end of 1882.

In births there was a decrease of 337; and in deaths an increase of 207.

——	1882.	1883.	——
Births - - - - -	12,955	12,618	Dec. 337
Deaths - - - - -	12,563	12,770	Inc. 207

The birth-rate in the total population was 35·0 per thousand; the death-rate 35·4 per thousand.

As compared with 1882 the death-rate shows an increase of 0·5 per thousand, and the birth-rate a decrease of 1·0 per thousand.

There was a slight increase in still-births, namely, from 1,107 in 1882 to 1,113 in 1883.

Suicides fell from 45 in 1882 to 42 in 1883.

XIII.—Immigration and Labour.

As the following statement shows, the total number of immigrants introduced in 1883 was 1,915,— *i.e.* 676 more than in 1882:—

——	Males.	Females.	Total.
From Calcutta - - -	866	394	1,260
„ Madras - - -	417	238	655
	1,283	632	1,915

While there was no mortality whatever on board of the immigrant ships from Madras, the ratio of deaths on board of the ships from Calcutta amounted to an average of 14 per cent.

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The proportion of females to males in the immigration of the year was 42·3 from Calcutta, and 48·4 from Madras.

Labour being greatly in demand on the sugar estates, the Protector of Immigrants was despatched to India in the month of May by the Hon. Mr. Bruce, the Officer Administering the Government, for the purpose of taking the necessary steps to recruit the labourers required.

The average cost of introduction paid by requisitionists in 1883 was Rs. 154 per male adult.

No change was made in the Government scale of wages and rations.

The number of coolies who left the Colony is shown by the following figures :—

Males - - - - -	1,766
Females - - - - -	640
	2,406

1,297 went to Calcutta; 589 to Madras; 446 to Bombay; and 74 to other places.

Amongst the coolies who left the Colony in 1883, there were 470 natives of Mauritius : 243 males and 227 females.

The proportion of females to males in the departures was 36·2 per cent.

The savings taken away by the coolies who left in 1883 amounted to Rs. 342,144.

A fact worthy of notice in connection with labour on the sugar estates is the gradual falling-off of the number of labourers who entered into written contracts:

	No. of men engaged.
1878 - - - - -	62,535
1879 - - - - -	56,582
1880 - - - - -	55,149
1881 - - - - -	52,456
1882 - - - - -	49,605
1883 - - - - -	48,738

The total population on sugar estates decreased from 145,069 in 1880 to 128,331 in 1883.

The number of labourers on sugar estates was 3,333 less than in 1882.

The mortality on sugar estates was less than in either the total Indian population or the aggregate population of the Colony :—

Mortality on sugar estates - -	30 per thousand
„ in whole Indian population -	33 „
„ in total population of the Colony - - -	35 „

XIV.—Education.

There were 57 Government schools and 57 aided schools at the end of 1883.

The average attendance was 4,276 in the former and 3,170 in the latter.

The cost to Government, of each pupil, was as follows :—

In the Government school, Rs. 26.60 per annum, or less by R. 0.64 than in 1882.

In the Aided schools Rs. 15.63 per annum, *i.e.* Rs. 2.61 more than in 1882.

Of the aided schools 41 were under Roman Catholic managers, 14 under the Church of England managers, and 2 under Presbyterian managers.

The number of pupils in the Royal College and the Royal College schools at the end of 1882 and 1883 were as follows :—

—	1882.	1883.
Royal College - - - - -	179	132
Royal College School, Curepipe - - -	140	174
Royal College School, Port Louis - -	242	234
Totals - - -	561	540

The sums disbursed for educational purposes in 1883 were as follows :—

	Rs.
Royal College - - -	183,147.88
Government schools - - -	153,868.80
Aided schools - - -	52,001.76
Administration (Government and aided schools) - - -	21,378.90
Industrial education - - -	1,512.14
Showing a grand total of - -	411,909.48*

The total expenditure in 1882 amounted to Rs. 381,220, *i.e.*, Rs. 30,689 less than in 1883.

XV.—Judicial Statistics.

The total number of persons prosecuted in 1883 was 21,110 — 2,640 less than in 1882.

* Exclusive of a sum of Rs. 5,882.27 spent at Rodrigues.

The offences tried were as follows :—

	1882.	1883.
Murder or attempt at murder - -	14	7
Other offences against the person - -	1,982	2,085
Offences against property - - -	3,225	2,220
Miscellaneous offences - - -	18,529	16,798
	23,750	21,110

One person was sentenced to death. The sentence was not carried out; it was commuted to hard labour for the term of the prisoner's life.

XVI.—GAOLS.

The total number of persons committed in 1883 was 6,948, 322 less than in 1882.

23	were imprisoned	for debt.
2,482	,,	for non-payment of costs.
998	,,	for safe custody till trial.
3,445	,,	for offences against the criminal law.
6,948		

The sentences under the criminal law were as follows :—

	1883.
1. Death - - - - -	1
2. Five years' imprisonment or more -	37
3. Not less than 1 year and less than 5 years - - - - -	150
4. More than 3 months and less than 1 year - - - - -	501
5. Three months or less - - -	2,756
Total - -	3,445

The above-mentioned committals of 1883 do not include 1,578 for vagrancy—*i.e.*, 319 more than during 1882; and 83 removals to the juvenile reformatory, *i.e.*, 34 more than in the previous year.

XVII.—Ecclesiastical Establishments.

In Mauritius (exclusive of the Dependencies) the adherents of the churches supported by the Government were, according to the census of 1881, as follows :—

Roman Catholics - - -	108,000
Protestants - - - -	8,000

The number of ministers were as follows :—

Roman Catholic Church - - -	48
Church of England - - - -	17
Presbyterian Church - - -	3

The expenses incurred by the Government in 1883 for the ecclesiastical establishments were as follows :—

—	Establishments.	Stipends as Grants-in-aid.	For Missions.	Building Grants.	Total.	Rate per member of each Church.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Roman Catholic Church -	64,445.59	3,571.36	4,910.00	6,650.00	79,576.95	0.73
Church of England -	30,968.28	2,642.73	5,909.98	1,185.69	46,272.32	5.78
Presbyterian Church -	2,499.96	2,535.68	180.00	350.00		
	97,913.83	8,749.77	10.999.98	8,185.69	125,849.27	

XVIII.—Botanical Gardens.

The Botanical Gardens at Pamplemousses and Curepipe propagated large numbers of plants; 138,376 plants were sent out of the former and 257,707 from the latter, making a total of 396,083 :—88,875 more than in 1882. This increase is attributable to large tracts of land being reforested by the Government.

The number of visitors at the gardens of Pamplemousses rose from 94,939 in 1882 to 113,620 in 1883, showing an increase of 18,681.

The visitors at Curepipe Gardens numbered about 21,000.

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XIX.—Forests and Crown Lands.

The expenditure incurred for the purchase of lands for afforestation purposes, up to the end of the year 1883, was as follows:—

	Rs.
Land acquired under Ordinance 10 of 1881:	
12,958 arpents - - -	1,673,000.00
Land acquired previous to Ordinance 10 of 1881:	
1,110 arpents - - -	100,345.74
Indemnity to owners of land included in mountain reserves - -	4,533.50
Indemnity to owners of other property - - -	6,938.64
Total - Rs.	1,784,817.88

The value of lands sold amounted to Rs. 5,529.

The amount of rent accruing from crown lands was Rs. 45,218.

The total working expenses of the forest department in 1883 amounted to Rs. 195,144; and the expenditure on land purchases to Rs. 683,747.

As all the lands purchased up to the end of 1883 are situated in the centre or the south of the island, the Secretary of State's authority has been obtained for the outlay of Rs. 500,000 in purchases of land for afforestation purposes in the Northern districts.

XX.—Railways.

The gross receipts of the railways amounted in 1883 to Rs. 1,789,855—Rs. 149,542 more than in 1882. The expenditure was Rs. 1,180,281—Rs. 165,267 more than during the previous year.

The net receipts showed a slight decrease:—

	Rs.
1882 - - - - - - -	625,299
1883 - - - - - - -	609,574
Decrease - Rs.	15,725

XXI.—Post Office and Telegraphs.

The gross revenue of the Post Office increased from Rs. 71,403 in 1882 to Rs. 75,805 in 1883.

The number of letters, post-cards, and newspapers which passed through the office were as follows :—

	Letters.	Post-cards.	Newspapers.
1882 - - - -	827,668	11,390	814,852
1883 - - - -	892,574	13,777	882,068
Increase - -	64,906	2,387	67,216

The postal money-order business showed an increase of Rs. 867,27.82.

	Rs.
1882 - - - -	137,197.90
1883 - - - -	223,924.91

The gross revenue of the telegraph branch amounted to Rs. 75,805.90—showing an increase of Rs. 4,402.88 on that of the previous year. The net revenue was Rs. 65,449.15—Rs. 6,409.57 more than in 1882.

XXII.—OBSERVATORY.

The following are the most noteworthy meteorological results reported by Dr. C. Meldrum, the able Director of the Royal Alfred Observatory :—

The mean temperature for the year 1883 was 73° 8 against a mean of 74° 1 for the period 1875–1883.

The highest temperature (86·1) occurred on the 14th March and the lowest (58·0) on the 25th July.

The temperature was 0·3°, the atmospheric pressure 0·019 inch, the rainfall 1·04 inch, and the mean hourly velocity of the wind 1·8 mile, *below* their averages for the last nine years; and the vapour tension 0·004 inch, the dew point 0·1°, and the relative humidity 1·1 per cent., *above* their averages.

Rainfall observations were received from 40 stations in the districts. The rainfall of the whole island was 2·19 inches above the average for the last 13 years.

Storm warnings were issued on four occasions, when cyclones were passing at a distance. The greatest velocity of the wind in the course of the year was 45 miles an hour on the 7th of December.

Upwards of 15,000 days' observations made at sea were tabulated, and the tracks of 8 cyclones determined.

The magnetographs were at work throughout the year, and the absolute magnetic values determined weekly. The greatest magnetic disturbances took place on July 1-3, August 27-29, and September 15-17.

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Observations of sun spots were made on 333 days, and 441 sun-pictures taken.

Meridian transits of sun and stars were observed daily, when the weather permitted, and the time ball was dropped three times a week.

A special report is being prepared by Dr. Meldrum regarding the phenomena observed at Mauritius and over the Indian Ocean during and after the eruptions at Krakatoa.

XXIII.—LEGISLATION.

34 Ordinances were passed in 1883, the most important of which were the following :—

No. 1 of 1883.—To amend the Muuicipal Conversion Loan Ordinance, 1881.

No. 3 of 1883.—To institute a bench of district magistrates in the districts of Mauritius for the more effectual repression of crime.

No. 7 of 1883.—To enlarge the jurisdiction of the Police Magistrate of Rodrigues in cases of civil debts due to the Crown.

No. 8 of 1883.—To provide for the appointment of a Crown Attorney.

No. 9 of 1883.—To amend the laws concerning prison discipline.

No. 10 of 1883.—To amend the Irrigation Ordinance, 1882.

No. 11 of 1883.—To amend the law on fisheries.

No. 12 of 1883.—To amend the law concerning sureties.

No. 14 of 1883.—To invest the police magistrate of the Island of Rodrigues with certain notarial powers.

No. 15 of 1883.—To provide against the pollution of rivers and streams in the Island of Mauritius.

No. 16 of 1883.—To amend the law as to the limitation of actions.

No. 17 of 1883.—To entrust the General Board of Health with the power and duty of carrying out the Building Acts in the rural districts of Mauritius, and with certain other powers.

No. 21 of 1883.—To amend the law of successions and wills.

No. 22 of 1883.—To prohibit the introduction of cast-off clothes in the Colony.

No. 25 of 1883.—To permit and to regulate the importation and sale of gandia.

No. 26 of 1883.—To amend the laws on licenses.

No. 27 of 1883.—To amend the laws on rivers and forests.

No. 28 of 1883.—To transfer to the Mayor and Corporation of Port Louis certain taxes on animals and vehicles now received by the Government.

No 29 of 1883.—To repeal the tax on the cultivation of tobacco in this Colony.

No. 32 of 1883.—To amend the law relating to vaccination.

No. 34 of 1883.—To abolish the use of the cat-o'nine-tails as a prison punishment and to amend the laws relative to the infliction of corporal punishment.

XXIV.—DEPENDENCIES.

(*a.*) *Seychelles and Rodrigues.*

The Seychelles Blue Book Report, and the Report of the Chief Civil Commissioner of Rodrigues, for 1883, are herewith submitted.

(*b.*) *Minor Dependencies.*

The following Minor Dependencies were visited and reported upon by the Magistrate appointed under Ordinance No. 41 of 1875:—

Diego Garcia,
Six Islands,
Eagle Island,
Peros Banhos,
Solomon Islands.

Port Louis,
20th September 1884.

(Signed) H. N. D. BEYTS,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

No. 17.

Administrator C. C. SMITH, C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the EARL of DERBY, K.G.

Government House, Penang,
August 6, 1884.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship copies of the Blue Book of the Colony for 1883, together with copies of the Report upon it drawn up by the acting Colonial Secretary.

2. I also enclose copies of the Administration Report of the Resident Councillor of Malacca.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CECIL C. SMITH.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Derby, K.G.,
&c. &c.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

REPORT on the STRAITS SETTLEMENTS BLUE BOOK for the Year 1883.

FINANCE.

Revenue.

1. The revenue of the Colony received during the year 1883 amounted to $3,049,220, and the expenditure defrayed during the year, including certain appropriations of surplus balances for extraordinary works, &c., amounted to $3,290,295, giving a deficit on the year's transactions of $241,075.*

2. The following comparative statement gives particulars of the principal items of the revenue and expenditure in 1882 and 1883 (corrected for arrears):—

Revenue.			Expenditure.		
——	1882.	1883.	——	1882.	1883.
	$	$		$	$
Land revenue - -	210,890	163,273	Salaries - - -	749,661	792,688
Licenses - - -	1,583,142	2,152,482	Education - -	60,596	75,293
Stamps - - -	226,494	249,608	Medical - - -	82,667	77,443
Reimbursements (including municipal contribution towards police expenditure, $50,600).	119,035	123,792	Police - - -	47,319	63,803
			Gaols - - -	52,958	61,204
			Miscellaneous services -	79,172	91,147
			Works and buildings -	480,925	754,868
			Roads, streets, and bridges - - -	94,474	185,588
Interest - - -	61,592	101,818			
Other receipts - -	264,000	268,869	Military expenditure -	239,437	239,122
			Special expenditure -	159,725	205,037
			Other expenditure† -	297,615	763 902
Total -	2,465,153	3,059,342	Total - -	2,344,549	3,310,095

3. The following statement gives particulars of the assets and liabilities at the beginning and end of the year 1883:—

Assets.			Liabilities.		
——	1st January, 1883.	31st December, 1883.	——	1st January, 1883.	31st December, 1883.
	$	$		$	$
Cash on current accounts or on fixed deposit with local banks - -	688,042	298,143	Debenture loan - -	373,333	352,186
			Deposits, &c. - -	113,927	173,430
			Expenditure in arrears -	95,579	115,379
Balance on Crown Agent's account and Bills -	183,477	202,730			
Invested in Government of India loans - -	355,000	500,000			
Loans to Native States -	130,550	97,244	Nett balance to the credit of the Colony -	1,043,827	793,074
Loans to Municipalities -	192,500	232,500			
Miscellaneous advances,&c.	29,468	45,700			
Singapore defences -	41,262	41,262			
Revenue in arrears -	6,368	16,490			
Total - -	1,626,666	1,434,069	Total - -	1,626,666	1,434,069

* Allowing for arrears at the beginning and end of the year, the revenue was $3,059,342, and the expenditure $3,310,095, giving a deficit of $250,753, and reducing the net balance to the credit of the Colony, as shown in the next statement, from $1,043,827, to $793,074.

† See para. 5.

4. It will be seen that the new reserve fund, invested in Indian securities, has been increased by $145,000, and now stands at $500,000; while, on the other hand, the deposits in the local banks have been reduced from $688,042 to $298,143.

5. The Budget deficit on the year's transactions which was estimated at $191,187, has, notwithstanding the unavoidable delay in completing some of the extraordinary works, been increased to $241,075, in consequence of the large unforseen charges, some of a very special character, which had to be met, mainly in the latter part of the year, such as :—

	$
Purchase of Messrs. Sandilands, Buttery & Co.'s property	185,00
Grants for the relief of sufferers by the volcanic eruption at Krakatua, and disastrous fires in Singapore and Trĕnggânu.	32,631
Rewards in connexion with the Opium Conspiracy	7,290
Expenses in connexion with the Rĕmbau disturbances	4,859

6. The following statement gives particulars of the land revenue collected in 1882 and 1883. The apparent falling off in the receipts is principally due to the large and special receipts in Singapore under the head of *premium* during 1882 not having been continued in 1883.

	1882.			1883.		
	Singapore.	Penang.	Malacca.	Singapore.	Penang.	Malacca.
	$	$	$	$	$	$
Premium on leases	58,026	9,066	647	13,448	4,520	2,394
Rents	33,545	30,656	52,788	34,561	28,946	55,441
Tenths and royalties	5,815	870	10,089	4,579	1,206	8,048
Miscellaneous	2,054	6,668	675	2,883	6,357	889
	99,440	47,260	64,190	55,471	41,029	66,772
	210,890			163,272		

7. The very large increase in the Colony's revenue for 1883 over the previous year, and consequently over any preceding year, is a remarkable feature of the past year's financial statement. Corrected for arrears, the increase amounts to $594,189 over that for 1882. Of this, the excise and pawnbrokers farms, which were re-let at the end of 1882, alone afford an increase of $569,412.

8. The increase under the head of stamps is satisfactory, showing an advance of $23,114, and bearing fresh testimony to the advantageous working of the new Stamp Ordinance, notwithstanding its

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

reduced duties, to which attention was directed last year. It may also be noted that the diminution in the receipts for light-dues is much less than was to have been looked for as the result of reducing the rates from 3 cents to 2 cents per ton on 1st January 1883.

These two items point clearly to the expansiveness of other heads of revenue no less than the excise licenses

Expenditure.

9. The expenditure in 1883 on public works (exclusive of Establishments), as compared with the similar expenditure in the previous year, is shown in the following statement :—

	1882.		1883.	
	Works.	Roads.	Works.	Roads.
	$	$	$	$
Singapore -	267,951	2,642	448,302	24,932
Penang - - -	170,756	47,887	243,191	112,897
Malacca - -	42,218	43,945	63,375	47,758
	480,925	94,474	754,868	185,587

10. The following are the principal works undertaken, carried on, or completed in 1883 :—

Works.	Estimated Cost.	Actual Payments. Works in Progress.	
		Prior to 1883.	1883.
Singapore.	$	$	$
Post Office - - - -	56,300	5,577	46,924
Magistrates' Courts - - -	70,100	13,581	35,723
Tĕluk Ayer reclamation - - -	507,071	331,337	81,553
Penang.			
General and Lock Hospital - -	75,000	52,890	10,810
Reclamation scheme - - -	518,914	—	71,619
Malacca.			
Hospital - - - -	23,500	1,298	22,517
High School - - - -	30,000	—	21,835

Local Revenues.

11. The following statement gives the revenue and expenditure and the cash balances of the municipalities of the three Settlements for 1882 and 1883 :—

Municipalities.	1882.	1883.
REVENUE—	$	$
Singapore - - - -	298,937	316,408
Penang - - - -	207,412	182,025
Malacca - - - -	25,445	27,188
	531,794	525,621
EXPENDITURE—		
Singapore - - - -	259,406	324,935
Penang - - - -	183,780	233,352
Malacca - - - -	30,108	26,465
	473,294	584,752
CASH BALANCES AT CLOSE OF YEAR—		
Singapore - - - -	55,836	47,309
Penang - - - -	45,291	234
Malacca - - - -	3,861	4,585
	104,988	52,128

12. It will be noticed that, taking the three Settlements together, the municipal revenues do not show the expansiveness which the Colony's budgets have now exhibited for many years.

LEGISLATION.

13. The following Ordinances were passed by the Legislative Council during the year 1883, and have all, with the exception of No. VI., received the gracious confirmation and allowance of Her Majesty :— Ordinances passed in 1883

Ordinances.

I.—An Ordinance to amend "the Appeals Ordinance, 1879."

II.—An Ordinance to amend the penal code (punishment for murder).

III.—An Ordinance to amend "the Labour Contracts Ordinance, 1882."

IV.—An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. XII. of 1882.

V.—An Ordinance to provide for the issue of licenses to junks and tongkangs belonging to the Straits Settlements.

VI.—An Ordinance to provide for the mode of collecting fees and payments in public offices and departments.

VII.—An Ordinance for making final provision for the Public Service for the year 1882.

VIII.—An Ordinance for making temporary provision for securing the status of French mail steamers at the ports of the Colony.

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IX.—An Ordinance for making provision for the Public Service for the year 1884.

X.—An Ordinance to prevent encroachments upon Crown lands.

XI.—An Ordinance to establish a uniform standard of measures of capacity in the three Settlements.

XII.—An Ordinance to amend the Law relating to the storage of petroleum and other inflammable oils and liquids.

Standard measures.

14. By No. XI., the English gallon and quart are established as the standard measures in the Colony. Pending the receipt of standard measures from England, this Ordinance has not been brought into operation at any of the Settlements.

Postal Department.

Postal work.

15. As compared with the numbers for 1882, and with the annual increase exhibited in recent years, the returns for the past year show the most satisfactory results. There is a falling off in the number of newspapers received, but in every other detail large increases are shown. The number of articles received amounted to 900,205 in 1882, and to 996,768 in 1883, while the number despatched increased from 653,106 in the former year to 866,300 in the year under review. The number of letters exceeded the number received in 1882 by 113,301; while the number despatched was greater by 137,570 than the number sent in the previous year.

Accounts.

16. The total revenue of the department ($91,059) exceeded the amount collected in 1882 by $11,901, to which excess the receipts by the sale of postage stamps contributed $8,526. The total expenditure exhibits an apparent decrease of $14,806, on account of no payment having been made to the London office for the conveyance of mails to the United Kingdom by Imperial contract packets. The correspondence on this subject has, since the close of 1883, been brought to a satisfactory conclusion.

Money Orders.

17. The money order business with the United Kingdom does not show any appreciable difference in figures, but local transactions have steadily increased by over $1,000, and the interchange with the Native States was availed of to the extent of $5,600 more than in the preceding year. The business with India gives an increase of Rs. 12,900, and an interchange of money orders with Ceylon began on the 1st January, 1883.

Savings Banks.

Singapore.

18. One hundred and seventy-five (175) new accounts were opened during the year, as against 111 in 1882; whilst 125 accounts were closed as against 93 in the previous year.

On the 31st December, 1883, there were 343 accounts open representing the sum of $51,838. This gives an increase of nearly $10,000 in the bank.

19. Since it was first established in 1876, 905 accounts have been opened, and $159,145 have been deposited. Of this sum, $34,857 was paid in in 1883, showing an excess of nearly 50 per cent. over the deposits of the preceding year.

20. The rate of interest allowed was raised from 4 to 5 per cent. in May, 1883, in all three Settlements, the bank still working at a profit in excess of its expenditure.

Penang.

21. Eighty-three (83) new accounts were opened in the Penang branch in 1883, showing an increase of 14 over the previous year, and $10,344 were deposited, being almost double the amount paid in in 1882. At the close of the year, 101 accounts were open with a sum of $8,430 in the bank.

Malacca.

22. A new branch was started at Malacca on the 1st of May, and up to the close of the year 11 accounts had been opened, and a sum of $868 was deposited.

Education.

23. The numbers of pupils presented for examination from the aided schools for boys has risen from 1,349 in 1882 to 1,626 at the 1883 inspection, and the average attendance from 1,684 in 1882 to 1,858 for the past year.

The passes obtained, excluding those gained by pupils who failed in a majority of subjects, are 6,234 in number, or 79 per cent. of those possible, as compared with 77 per cent. obtained at the 1882 inspection.

The attendance at these schools has been regular, averaging for the year 85 per cent. of those in average enrolment.

24. The number of girls' schools inspected has increased to seven.

25. The number of pupils in average enrolment in the Government English schools has risen from 724 in 1882 to 848 in 1883, and the average attendance from 608 during the year 1882 to 723 during the past year. This large increase in the attendance is principally due to the increased attendances at the Singapore schools, and at the branch school in Penang. The attendance at the Malacca high school remains almost the same as in the previous year.

The per-centages obtained by the schools average 85·5, from which it will be seen that, with one or two exceptions, the per-centages are exceedingly good, and the average per-centage 76·3.

26. The great feature of the past year's work in the Education Department is to be found in the continuing development of the Malay schools. In all 70 Government vernacular schools were

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inspected, as against 54 inspected during the year 1882; and the number of pupils presented for examination has risen from 1,305 presented in 1882 to 1,887 presented at the last inspection.

The passes obtained by these schools as a whole is 82 per cent. of those possible—a result which shows that satisfactory progress has been made during the year.

The number of pupils at these schools in "average enrolment" and in "average attendance" each year since 1881, and the enrolment and attendance at the present time, is shown in the following table:—

	Average Enrolment.	Average Attendance.
1881 - - - -	1,637	1,243
1882 - - - -	2,230	1,771
1883 - - - -	3,206	2,470
January 1884 - - -	4,280	3,330

The Malay training college has continued the useful work of preparing Malay teachers for these schools, having in the course of 1883 admitted 26 students and passed out 11 teachers.

Population.

Births and deaths.

27. The following statement shows the number of births and deaths registered during the past three years; the last census was taken in 1881, when the total population of this Colony was 423,384:—

Settlement.	Births.			Deaths.		
	1881.	1882.	1883.	1881.	1882.	1883.
Singapore - -	1,583	1,965	2,211	3,789	5,011	4,619
Penang - - -	2,319	1,272	1,428	3,621	3,170	3,354
Province Wellesley -		1,462	2,759		2,105	2,774
Malacca - -	2,100	1,893	2,142	2,145	3,911	2,652
Total -	6,002	6,592	8,540	9,555	14,197	13,399
	21,134			37,151		

28. The excess of deaths over births registered was, in these three years, 16,017. This does not, however, show that the population has decreased since 1881, as it is on immigration that the colony still depends for increase of population. The numbers of Chinese and Indian immigrants are given in another part of this report. Taking the same rate of increase as between 1871 and 1881, the population at the end of 1883 may be supposed to have reached about 466,000.

Chinese Immigration.

Immigrants.

29. There were 112,261 Chinese immigrants examined on board vessels on their arrival at Singapore as against 104,177 in 1882. Of these, 61,206 landed in Singapore, and 48,419 in Penang; the numbers in the preceding year being 55,887 and 45,691 respectively. Of the Singapore immigrants, 957 proceeded to Malacca, and 1,679 to other places.

Unpaid passengers.

30. In Singapore, 10,249 and, in Penang, 16,197 were admitted into the licensed depôts. These figures show satisfactorily that the practice of immigrants prepaying their passages is becoming established, and that, although immigration is yearly on the increase, the number of unpaid passengers is steadily diminishing. The total number of unpaid immigrants was less by 1,969 than the number in 1882, and by 5,870 than in 1881.

Paid passengers.

31. The number who had paid their own passages was 50,957 in Singapore, and 31,733 in Penang. These figures show very large increases over the previous year.

Women.

32. The number of women who arrived in the Colony was 4,259, as against 3,011 in the preceding year. Of these, 1,701 landed in Singapore, and 2,279 in Penang, while 279 proceeded to other places.

Contracts to labour.

33. There were 31,663 contracts to labour executed in the Colony during the year, as against 33,601 in 1882. Of these, 16,666 were for labour in the Colony and the protected Native States, and 14,997 for labour in other places.

Indian Immigration.

34. During the year, 1,450 adult Indian immigrants under the Ordinance arrived at Penang, besides 176 dependants and 8,979 Indians who shipped as passengers, not under contract to work, but most of whom are eventually engaged as coolies on the estates in Province Wellesley.

35. The following table shows the numbers who have arrived, under the Immigration Ordinance and as passengers, during the

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last four years and the numbers who have returned to India as passengers during the last three years :—

	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.
Immigrants under the Ordinance—				
Men - - -	993	729	1,136	1,156
Women - - -	198	150	316	294
	1,091	879	1,452	1,450
Dependants - -	107	159	209	176
Passengers not under the Ordinance—				
Arrived - - -	3,755	5,769	8,276	8,979
	4,953	6,807	9,937	10,605
Returned - - -	—	5,269	5,947	9,041

36. The unusually large number of passengers returning to India in 1883 is accounted for by the competition between two rival lines of steamships, which almost induced the agents to take passengers free.

37. It is to be regretted that the per-centage of women among the immigrants shows no increase.

38. There were twelve estates in Province Wellesley in 1883, employing Indian immigrants. The numbers of the immigrants so employed on the 31st December, 1883, being :—

Immigrants under the Ordinance - -	3,130
Immigrants not under the Ordinance -	2,091
Total - -	5,221

39. The health of the immigrants was good, as has already been stated.

40. The Government has been in communication with the Government of India and Madras during the year, regarding the proposed amendment of the law relating to Indian immigration to this Colony and the Protected Native States. Mr. E. C. Buck, Secretary to the Government of India in the Revenue and Agricultural Department, with Major Fischer, as the representative of the Madras Government, visited the Colony and personally inspected the estates and saw the conditions under which Indian immigrants live and the treatment they receive. A new Indian Immigration Ordinance, based upon a memorandum drawn up by these officers in conjunction with a committee of local officers, has been prepared, and it is confidently anticipated that, before

long, the present restrictions placed on the free emigration of coolies from India will, in the main, be removed.

Trade.

41. The following table gives the values of the imports and exports at the three Settlements, in 1882 and 1883 :— Imports and exports.

	Imports.		Exports.	
	1882.	1883.	1882.	1883.
	$	$	$	$
Singapore - -	74,343,978	79,175,687	61,192,458	68,174,220
Penang - - -	23,100,213	32,235,103	26,328,173	34,182,239
Malacca - -	4,082,136	4,045,986	4,074,041	3,988,482
	101,526,327	115,456,776	91,594,672	106,344,941

42. The returns for 1883 show that the trade with the United Kingdom was greater than in 1882 by eight and three-quarter millions of dollars, that with Foreign Countries by over fifteen millions, and that with British Colonies and between the Settlements by four and a half millions.

43. Under the head of Foreign Countries, trade with France and Cochin China shows an increase of four and a quarter millions, with Netherlands India of over four millions, and with Siam of one and a half millions.

44. The principal items of export and import during the year were :—

Articles.	1883.		Articles.	1883.	
	Imports.	Exports.		Imports.	Exports.
	$	$		$	$
Cotton goods - -	12,232,866	8,585,117	Tin - - -	13,245,032	14,916,217
Fish, salted, &c. -	3,069,710	2,933,724	Opium - -	7,149,065	6,616,901
Gambier - -	4,520,072	4,904,736	Specie and bullion -	13,327,970	14,280,297
Rice - - -	10,414,387	7,709,148	Spices - -	6,446,943	8,553,306
Gums, dyes, and resins	3,962,132	4,876,560	Tapioca - -	1,220,271	2,426,428
Horns and hides -	1,873,499	2,358,055	Tobacco and cigars -	3,330,485	3,594,062

Shipping.

45. The number of vessels, exclusive of native craft, entered at the three ports of the Colony during the year under review was 5,476, with an aggregate tonnage of 3,500,230 tons, and crews numbering 236,434 persons. These figures show an increase over 1882 of 492 vessels, 201,680 tons, and 26,527 persons. Inwards.

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Singapore. 46. In Singapore, the arrivals numbered 2,832 vessels, with a tonnage of 2,172,394 tons, being an increase over the previous year of 251 vessels.

Penang. 47. In Penang, 1,875 vessels entered, with an aggregate tonnage of 1,125,901 tons. The excess over 1882 was 159 vessels.

Malacca. 48. In Malacca, 769 vessels, with a tonnage of 201,935 tons, arrived at the port. The excess over the arrivals in 1882 was 82 vessels.

Outwards. 49. The number of vessels, exclusive of native craft, cleared from the three ports of the Colony during 1883, was 5,357 with an aggregate tonnage of 3,445,176 tons, and crews numbering 227,345 persons. The increase over 1882 was 367 vessels, 147,509 tons, and 20,501 persons.

Singapore. 50. From Singapore, 2,719 vessels cleared, with a tonnage of 2,118,225 tons. The increase over 1882 was 126 vessels.

Penang. 51. The departures from Penang numbered 1,872 vessels, with a tonnage of 1,125,381 tons, being an increase over 1882 of 162 vessels.

Malacca. 52. From Malacca, 766 vessels, with a tonnage of 201,570 tons, cleared, being 79 vessels more than in 1882.

Native craft. Inwards. 53. The number of native craft entered at the three ports of the Colony during 1883 was 8,344, of a tonnage of 226,903 tons, as against 7,072 in 1882.

Outwards. 54. The number that cleared out from the Colony was 9,075, of a tonnage of 246,817 tons, as against 8,420 in the previous year.

Lighthouses.

55. The lighthouse on Muka Head, at the northern end of Penang Island, was completed during the year, and the light was exhibited for the first time on the 15th August, 1883.

56. The light is a revolving one of the first order, with alternate flashes and total eclipses, and is visible from a distance of about 30 miles. The exact position is in latitude 5° 27′ 40″ and longitude 100° 10′ 30″.

57. A new harbour light at Penang was also erected during the year, and the other lights in the Straits were kept in good order. Certain necessary repairs and alterations were effected in the light-ship "Formosa," and a temporary light was placed on the Formosa bank from August to October while she was absent from her position.

58. On a requisition from the Legislative Council, a commission was appointed by the Governor in March, 1883, to inquire into and report upon the question of establishing a new lighthouse at Pulau Pisang, and removing the light-vessel at Formosa bank to the Sultan Shoal. This new lighthouse has been recommended.

Public Health.

General. 59. The general health of the Colony during 1883 was good. No epidemic occurred, though, as usual, there were sporadic cases

of small-pox and cholera, the number of deaths from the former disease in Malacca amounting to 254 in the course of the year.

Numbers treated.

60. The total number of patients treated in the several hospitals of the Colony during the year was 15,214, of whom 548 were Europeans and 14,666 natives.

The following table shows the total numbers of patients treated, the deaths, and the average daily sick at the hospitals in the several Settlements during the past two years :—

Settlement.	Total treated.		Deaths.		Average Daily Sick.	
	1882.	1883.	1882.	1883.	1882.	1883.
Singapore - -	7,478	8,619	779	654	646·60	573·22
Penang - - -	1,539	1,214	291	165	151·37	152·03
Province Wellesley -	3,809	3,722	430	423	363·96	352·23
Malacca - - -	2,290	1,659	198	133	107·64	90·12

Deaths.

61. The number of deaths was 1,375; 20 occurring among Europeans, and 1,355 among natives. The per-centage of deaths, in all the hospitals of the Colony, to the numbers treated being, for Europeans 3·6, and for natives 9·2.

Pauper hospitals.

62. Of the 1,375 deaths during the year, 1,018 occurred in the pauper hospitals, viz., at Singapore 540, at Penang 322, and at Malacca 156. The majority of admissions into these hospitals are for ulcers, sloughing phagedœna, and malarial fevers. Three hundred and forty (340) cases of beri-beri were admitted into the pauper hospitals at Singapore and Penang, of which 129 were fatal. The proportion of deaths at the pauper hospitals must always be large, owing to the deplorable state in which a great number of the patients are admitted.

Prison hospitals

63. The health of the prisoners in the gaols in all the Settlements was good, and the report on the Singapore prison hospital is the most satisfactory one published for some years. Beri-beri was not epidemic at any time during the year, though some few cases (19) were admitted, and some few deaths (8) occurred from it. The total deaths in the three prison hospitals was 36.

Estate hospitals.

64. The medical officer in charge of Province Wellesley reports that the estate hospitals are efficiently conducted, and that the health of the Indian immigrants working on the estates has been good throughout the year. The number of admissions to the estate hospitals was 11,307, but many of these were for very trifling ailments. The number of deaths was 32 or 2·83 per 1,000.

Lunatic asylum, Singapore.

65. The number of patients treated in the Central Lunatic Asylum at Singapore was 266, the daily average being 130·9, as against 135·8 in 882. The number of deaths was 30, the prin-

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cipal causes being general debility, paralysis of the insane, chronic dysentry, and atrophy. Most of these cases were received into the asylum in a sickly condition and suffering from the diseases to which they succumbed. The per-centage of deaths to the total treated was 11·2, as against 13·2 in 1882.

66. This asylum receives lunatic patients for the Colony generally, and also for the Protected Native States.

Contagious Diseases Ordinance.

67. The duties under the Contagious Diseases Ordinance have been carried out as usual by the medical officers, and the principal civil medical officer is able to report that the introduction of the Ordinance into the Colony has resulted in a steady reduction of the diseases it is intended to combat.

Outdoor dispensary.

68. The Government out-door dispensary proves itself to be a useful institution in Singapore, and is becoming more popular among the natives and lower classes generally. A similar dispensary has been started in Penang.

Vaccination.

69. The results of vaccination are reported as showing great improvement over previous years, the lymph supplied last year having been of a better quality than hitherto.

Quarantine.

70. No cases have occurred during the year which have made it necessary for the quarantine stations to be used.

Police and Crime.

Conduct and discipline.

71. The report of the Acting Inspector General of police shows that the force continues to improve, and that the conduct and discipline generally have been good, though the number of offences and dismissals among the Malay and Kling contingent is greater than in 1882. The returns furnished prove that, compared with previous years, a larger proportion than usual of cases reported to the police has been discovered.

Cas es reported

Cases reported.

72. The total number of cases reported to the police in 1883, was 10,696, as against 11,098 in 1882, while in 1883 7,435 were discovered against 5,009 in 1882.

Strength of orce.

73. The following was the actual strength of the force for the three Settlements on the 31st December, 1883:—

1	Inspector-General.
3	Superintendents.
3	Assistant Superintendents.
1	Chief Inspector.
18	Inspectors.
28	European contingent (all ranks).
207	Sikh do. do.
1,179	Malay & Kling do. do.
1,440	Total.

European and Sikh contingents.

74. Their officers speak in high terms of the European and Sikh contingents, which were recruited in 1881. About forty more Europeans are to be recruited in the early part of 1884,

which will make up the full complement of this branch of the force. There is never any lack of Sikh recruits offering themselves for service.

75. The cost of the maintenance of the force was $267,337. Cost.

76. The number of cases arrested by the police during the year was 20,267, as against 17,180 in 1882, the increases being:— Cases arrested.

In Singapore - - -	1,357 cases.
In Penang - - - -	1,413 „
In Malacca - - - -	317 „
Total	3,087 cases.

77. In Singapore there was a considerable increase in the number of arrests for breaches of the Excise Ordinance, owing to a determined attempt made in the early part of the year to ruin the new opium farmers, by smuggling into Singapore large quantities of prepared opium (chandu), sold at rates much below those of the farm. Opium smuggling.

78. There has been nothing remarkable in regard to serious crimes in Singapore or Malacca, but in Penang the number of such crimes as murder and gang-robbery attracts attention; ten cases of murder and nine of gang-robbery have been reported to the police during the year. Serious crimes.

79. There were no serious disturbances in connection with Chinese secret societies, though the societies are reported to have been unsually troublesome in Penang, with constant petty quarrels. Secret societies.

80. The following return shows the numbers of hackney carriages registered by the superintendents of police, who are also registrars of hackneys carriages at each Settlement, during 1883:— Registration of Hackney carriages.

Settlement.	First Class.	Second Class.	Third Class.	Stage Coaches.	Jinrickshas.	Total.
Singapore - -	19	936	118	7	1,189	2,269
Penang - - -	44	644	247	—	299	1,234
Malacca - -	—	16	141	—	88	245
Total - -	63	1,596	506	7	1,576	3,748

The total shows an increase of 1,400 over the number for 1882, which is chiefly owing to the increased number of jinrickshas which have recently been introduced in Singapore.

Judicial.

81. The number of prisoners tried by the Supreme Court during the year was 395, 68 more than in 1882. Thirteen persons were charged with murder, of whom five were convicted, but in only two cases the sentence of death was carried out. Supreme court, criminal side.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

82. The following table gives further details of the cases, and compares the year 1883 with the previous year:—

		1882.—No. of Prisoners.				1883.—No. of Prisoners.			
		Singapore.	Penang.	Malacca.	Total.	Singapore.	Penang.	Malacca.	Total.
Murder	Convicted	2	1	—	3	3	1	1	
	Acquitted	1	6	—	7	2	6	—	8
Do., Attempt	Convicted	3	1	1	5	2	3	—	5
	Acquitted	1	7	—	8	1	—	—	1
Manslaughter	Convicted	5	9	—	14	—	5	1	6
	Acquitted	4	—	—	4	2	1	—	3
Grievous hurt	Convicted	10	2	2	14	4	1	4	9
	Acquitted	21	—	—	21	1	3	—	4
Other offences against the person	Convicted	3	37	5	45	11	15	1	27
	Acquitted	—	9	1	10	3	7	5	15
Robbery with violence	Convicted	10	6	3	19	7	19	8	34
	Acquitted	—	8	2	10	2	19	6	27
Theft, housebreaking	Convicted	37	49	5	91	48	53	5	106
	Acquitted	4	11	1	16	14	15	6	35
Other offences against property	Convicted	7	8	4	19	17	1	2	20
	Acquitted	1	13	4	18	14	—	—	14
Miscellaneous offences	Convicted	7	4	—	11	9	24	2	35
	Acquitted	6	6	—	12	12	29	—	41
Total	Convicted	84	117	20	221	101	122	24	247
	Acquitted	38	60	8	106	51	80	17	148
Grand Total		122	177	28	327	152	202	41	395

Magistrates' courts.

83. The following table shows the number of cases dealt with by the police magistrates and marine magistrates during the years 1882 and 1883, and the number of prisoners charged:—

Settlement.	1882.		1883.	
	Cases.	Prisoners.	Cases.	Prisoners.
Singapore:—				
Police Magistrate	10,777	16,250	11,238	15,962
Marine „	292	467	242	345
Penang:—				
Police	9,131	12,989	8,402	11,947
Marine	139	429	37	64
Province Wellesley:—				
Police Magistrate	4,273	7,210	8,448	9,253
Malacca:—				
Police Magistrate	1,561	2,324	1,941	2,862
Total	26,173	39,669	30,308	40,433

84. The large increase of cases in Province Wellesley is to be accounted for by the increased number of breaches of the Indian Immigration Ordinance brought before the magistrate, the cases of this class amounting to 4,587 in 1883 against 1,210 in 1882.

Supreme court, civil side.

85. The number of civil actions commenced in the Supreme Court in the years 1882 and 1883 respectively was as follows :—

Settlement.	1882.	1883.
Singapore - - - -	779	1,020
Penang - - - -	726	526
Malacca - - - -	192	133
Total - -	1,697	1,679

Courts of requests.

86. The following statement shows the number of cases heard by the Commissioners of the courts of requests, who have jurisdiction up to $50, in each Settlement during the past two years :—

Settlement.	1882.	1883.
Singapore - - - -	2,360	2,216
Penang - - - -	2,982	3,153
Province Wellesley - -	997	773
Malacca - - - -	1,165	1,517
Total - -	7,504	7,659

Inquests.

87. The number of inquests held in the same period was :—

Settlement.	1882.	1883.
Singapore - - - -	147	185
Penang - - - -	57	48
Province Wellesley - -	56	36
Malacca - - - -	58	55
Total - -	318	324

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

Gaols.

Singapore.

88. In the Singapore criminal prison, on the 1st January, 1883, there were 814 prisoners in gaol; 3,783 were admitted during the year, and 3,709 were discharged; the total number of prisoners on the 31st of December was 861, of whom 33 were Europeans.

Daily average.

89. The daily average of prisoners was 877, as against 809 in the previous year. This unusually high average is partly due to the great number of prisoners committed during the Opium smuggling conspiracy, referred to in paragraph 77, which was suppressed in the early part of the year.

Deaths.

90. During the year, 27 prisoners or 3·08 per cent. died, as compared with 35 or 4·33 per cent. in 1882. The state of health in the prison was exceptionally good, most of those who died being men who entered the prison in such advanced stages of disease as to make their cases hopeless.

Prison offences.

91. The serious offences against prison rules punished by flogging amounted to 31 in number. There were four cases of assaults, but they were not serious. There were three escapes from the prison, all of short-sentenced prisoners.

Penang.

92. In the Penang prison, 1,782 prisoners were committed during the year, of whom 43 were Europeans. The daily average was 234, as against 253 in 1882.

93. The state of health was very good during the year. Five prisoners died.

94. The offences against prison rules punished by caning numbered 66, and there were 12 cases of assaults. One escape took place, but the prisoner was recaptured the next day.

Malacca.

95. Two hundred and fourteen (214) prisoners were committed to the Malacca prison during the year, all being natives. The daily average was 34, as against 23 in 1882.

96. The health of this prison was also good, the daily average in hospital being 2·23. There were no deaths, no serious offences, and no escapes.

97. The daily average of civil prisoners, including those awaiting trial, in all the Settlements, was 101. There were four deaths.

(Signed) A. M. SKINNER,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Singapore, 6th August 1884.

PENANG.

No. 18.

Administrator C. C. SMITH, C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY, K.G.

Government House, Singapore,
October 3, 1884.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit six copies of the Penang Administration Report for the year 1883.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CECIL C. SMITH.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Derby, K.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

ADMINISTRATION REPORT, PENANG, 1883.

STATISTICS.

Colonial Revenue and Expenditure.

1. The general revenue for 1883 shows an increase over 1882 of $82,273.34, the figures being for 1882 $900,322.32, and for 883 $982,595.66.

2. There is a decrease under land revenue of $6,224.03, and smaller decreases amounting in the aggregate to $4,000.60, chiefly under the heads of "Fines, forfeitures and fees of court" and "Special receipts."

3. The increases are chiefly under the head of "Licenses farmed out," which alone show a higher figure over 1882 by $80,292, while there is an advance this year of receipts in the stamp revenue of $5,413.78, and of postage of $2,880.25.

4. In the report for last year, it was stated that an increase in the stamp revenue might be expected, and this has been realised, partly, no doubt, from the re-introduction of the impressed system, and from more extended transactions in trade and land.

5. Further stamp agencies have, moreover, been opened in the various country districts of Penang and Province Wellesley.

6. The total colonial expenditure for the year was $759,883, as against $558,187.75 in 1882.

7. The principal increase was under the head of "Salaries," the figures in 1882 being $233,899.68, and in 1883 $257,723.43, or an increase of $23,823.75. Works and buildings show an increase of $86,917, and roads, streets and bridges of $66,030.75.

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There is an increase also under Government vessels of $7,895.14. Most of the other heads of account show smaller increases, such as education, police, revenue services, &c., &c.

8. The Assistant Treasurer reports a satisfactory development in the operations of the "savings bank." The amount deposited in 1882 was $5,538.39, against $10,344.10 in 1883.

9. The usual comparative statement of revenue and expenditure for the year is annexed.*

Municipal Revenue and Expenditure.

10. The usual annual comparative statement of receipts and expenditure is annexed* showing a small balance to credit of the municipal fund at the close of the year.

11. The Municipal Commissioners have added to the town during the year a handsome new iron market at a total cost of $30,891.79.

12. The length of the building is 300 feet and breadth 60 feet. It contains 54 stalls for the sale of dry goods, 32 with slate slabs for the sale of meat, and 38 with Minton tiles for the sale of fish. Water is laid on throughout the market to ensure daily cleansing of both stalls and floors.

13. The building is well lighted and ventilated, and is now furnished with a clock, the gift of the present renters, Messrs. Hin, Lee, & Co.

14. In the market square is a small drinking fountain, together with a few shop-houses, and a spacious bathing-house. The whole is rented at $1,026 per mensem.

15. Owing to the increased number of packages landed at this port from steamers, it became necessary to enlarge the sheds at the jetty, and the opportunity was also taken to arrange for all goods being landed under cover.

16. Under the head of roads, streets, and bridges, the Board has undertaken the construction of a new road round Fort Cornwallis, and a sum of $31,228.95 has been expended on the maintenance and improvement of other roads in the Island, or a total of $5,044.11 over the outlay for 1882.

17. The roads in the Balik Pulau district were also much improved during the year.

18. To ensure a ready and economical supply of metal, the Board has purchased and set up on their new ground at the foot of the hill one of Blake's stone breakers.

19. The esplanade was also in part raised, and will be completed later on. The municipal commissioners approved also of the erection by the cricket club of a pavilion on this ground on similar conditions to those in force in Singapore.

20. The Board has had to acknowledge during the year the liberality of Mr. Koh Siang Tat in the gift of a fountain to the town, which has been erected in the Town Hall grounds; and

* Not printed.

also of Mr. Cheah Tek Soon in the presentation to his fellow-citizens of an iron band-stand from Macfarlane and Co., of Glasgow, the base of which is now in course of erection.

21. The suburban drainage has been continued, and much benefit has been generally derived in relieving the low lands of the annual floods.

22 Near the Town Hall, and adjoining the offices of the Municipal Staff, buildings have been erected as workshops for the fitters, and for store-rooms, for which rent had hitherto to be paid.

23. In Province Wellesley villages the Board has turned its attention to the necessity of improved conservancy, and the supervision of the duty is now placed under the direct charge of their officer in that district. A market at Nîbong Tĕbal in Province Wellesley has been erected, and arrangements made to open another at Bukit Tanbun.

24. The Board has had to record the loss of the valuable services of their secretary, Mr. D. C. Presgrave, who died on the 4th of August from a fall from his horse when out on duty.

25. Temporary arrangements were made for the conduct of the duties until the appointment, by the Board, in December last, of the present secretary, Mr. J. W. Hallifax.

Imports and Exports.

26. The returns for 1883 have been prepared, with increased care, by the Registrar's Department, and, added to the co-operation of the mercantile community in transmitting their manifests in good time, are, no doubt, more accurate than they have hitherto been.

27. In both imports and exports this Settlement shows a marked advance on the preceding year as follows:—

	Imports.	Exports.
	$	$
1882 - - - -	23,100,213	26,328,173
1883 - - - -	32,235,103	34,182,239
	9,134,890	7,854,066

or a total advance in the import and export trade for the year of $16,988,956.

28. Part of this increase may be attributed to the accounts being kept up more systematically; but even allowing for this there is a considerable advance in the year, and the trade is clearly progressive. Since 1867, the year of the transfer of these Settlements to the Crown, the total value of imports and exports has increased by over 20 million dollars. The chief articles of trade

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and in which the increase has taken place, are tin and tobacco, areca-nuts, cotton goods, dry and salted fish, rice, copra. Amongst the imports, machinery figures at $157,821, nearly the whole of which is from the United Kingdom.

29. The value of black pepper imported from Sumatra amounted to $1,782,320, and of white pepper to $13,552.

30. The imports and exports from the United Kingdom generally show an advance over the preceding year of $4,134,205, from British colonies of $4,130,971, and from foreign countries $8,723,780.

31. Trade with the Native States has nearly doubled itself during the year under review, and is still on the increase.

32. The usual comparative statement is annexed.*

Shipping and Harbour Department.

33. In his comparative statement of revenue* the Harbour Master shows a decrease of 479, due chiefly, he states, to the reduction in light dues from 3 cents to 2 cents per ton.

34. Fees for registration of fishing boats continue to increase. The shipping returns show an increase in steam traffic of 172 steamers inward and 171 outward. The increase in tonnage inward is 76,537, and outward 75,808, or a grand total inward of 1,125,901, and outward of 1,125,381, less sailing vessels, viz., five ships, five barques, two brigs, and one schooner.

35. There was an increase of 768 native crafts of 16,852 tons, making a total inward of 60,205 tons, and outward of 77,898 tons.

36. The number of local steamers trading with the Native States is steadily on the increase, there being now 10 in all, exclusive of the regular coasting steamers between this and Singapore. Communication by steam launches with different parts of Province Wellesley is regularly kept up, and arrangements are being made to ensure a more regular communication between Penang and Butterworth.

37. The new Government launch "Alert" has been added to the Department, thus giving two launches, which, with the increased duty of relieving the new lighthouse at Muka Head, is not more than is required for the port.

38. This lighthouse was completed in July, and was lighted up on the 15th August. It is a first order revolving light, with alternate flashes and total eclipses, and the light is elevated 795 feet above the sea level, and has been seen for 38 miles.

39. It is intended, in 1884, to add to the facilities of the local navigation by placing the present light house at Fort Cornwallis on to Pulau Remo in the south of the Island, and substituting for it at the Fort a fourth order revolving light, which will be placed on to the new iron flag-staff to be erected there.

40. Further, to facilitate navigation at night by local steamers beacons will be substituted for certain buoys in the south channel,

* Not printed.

and on these will be fitted lamps, which will be kept lighted at the expense of the owners of the outlying fishing stakes.

41. The complete survey of the harbour and channels by officers of H.M.S. "Magpie" has been approved by the Admiralty, and will be shortly commenced.

Land.

42. Annexed is a comparative statement* prepared by Mr. C. J. Skinner, Collector of Land Revenue, but now styled the Deputy Commissioner of Lands, under the new arrangement of the Department, showing the transactions of his office during the year 1881, 1882, and 1883.

43. The land revenue for the year amounted to $45,052.34, being $18,838 less than was estimated for. The chief deficiency has been in land rents, and it is stated that this is due especially to an over-estimate in the preparation of the general budget of the Colony for the year.

44. There is also a considerable decrease under the head of "Premium on Leases," caused, Mr. Skinner points out, by the stoppage in the issue of titles, pending the introduction of the new land scheme.

45. He further adds that, owing also to the undeveloped state of the new land scheme, "it has not been possible to do anything "effectual towards dealing with fresh applications for titles, "either for new land, or from squatters desirous of registering "their holdings."

46. The Department has, however, made some progress in indexing and arranging the older portion of the office records; and in clearing up the titles in connexion with the new Beach Street Reclamation.

46*a*. Mr. Skinner reports the extension of the pepper-growing industry at Arra Kuda, in North Province Wellesley, under the Achinese, but a falling off in the padi crops, owing to insufficient rain, and some dilatoriness on the part of the Malays in planting.

47. Appendix F.* gives the result of the last padi harvest up to date, and may well be published with this report.

Post Office.

48. With the general advance of the Settlement there is a corresponding increase in postal work during the year.

49. Letters received have increased in number by 11,459, papers by 4,822, parcels by 163, and books by 2,657; while money order transactions shows an advance of $5,35728.

50. The local post has been improved both in Penang and Province Wellesley, and, by the importation of Tappal runners from India, the mail despatched from Penang by the 2 p.m. launch is now delivered in the south of Province Wellesley the same evening. New post offices have been erected at Butterworth and Bukit Mertajam in the Province, and a daily post has been

* Not printed.

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established between town and the south of the Island at Balik Pulau.

51. The usual annual statement of this Department, which has been well supervised throughout the year by Captain Fox, R.N.R., is given in the Appendix G.*

Indian Immigration.

52. During the year under review, 1,450 immigrants arrived, 1,156 males and 294 females, with 176 dependants. The number of free passengers who arrived from the coast was 8,979.

53. The number of indentured immigrants on the estates in Province Wellesley at the close of the year was 3,130, being an increase of 209 on the previous year.

54. The proctector, Mr. Murray MacGregor, reports a large efflux of Indians to the coast, as many as 9,041 having taken passages back to their native country, but with the purpose to return. This is attributed to the lowness of the fares by steamers caused by unexpected competition.

55. Desertions from the estates, it is to be regretted, are greatly on the increase, as many as 567 having decamped to Pêrak and elsewhere, of whom only 213 were arrested.

56. This is due to the higher rate of wages ruling in the native states, which can only reach their proper level by increased supply of labourers from the coast, while the fact that labour is so much in demand, and so easily transferred from Province Wellesley to Pêrak, keeps up the rates there.

57. The sanitary condition of the estates is favourably reported on, and the per-centage of deaths only 2·10 per 1,000. Dr. McClosky, in his return, gives the total admissions into estate hospitals at 11,307, of which there were 32 deaths, or 2·83 per mil.

58. The Settlements were visited by Mr. E. C. Buck, Secretary to the Government of India, Revenue and Agricultural Department; and Colonel Bowness Fischer, British Consular Agent at Karikal, in the month of July ; and a commission was appointed by his Excellency the Governor to inquire into matters relative to free immigration from India, and the provisions of the proposed new immigration Ordinance.

Chinese Immigration and Emigration.

59. There has been a steady influx of Chinese immigrants to the Settlement during the year—47,930, as against 45,122 in 1882.

60. Of these arrivals, 31,733 paid their own passage, and the remainder were admitted into depôts, of which there are now 12 in the Settlement, licensed under section 2 of Ordinance III. of 1877 and under section 7 of Ordinance IV. of 1880, and all are now under excellent control.

61. Among the immigrants were 1,372 women and 546 children. Of these, 900 women and 360 children went to

* Not printed.

Pêrak. Women go readily to Lârut, where there is no medical examination.

62. Eighteen thousand nine hundred and thirteen (18,913) contracts for service were made by the Department.

63. The inspection by the Registrar of brothels licensed under sections 2 of Ordinance XXIII. of 1870 has been carefully maintained, and the weekly examination of women of all nationalities by the Medical Department resumed.

64. The secret societies have been unusually troublesome during the year: their members number altogether 57,996, of which the Ghi Hin has no fewer than 33,773; 6,995 new members having been registered during the year.

65. Mr. Karl, Assistant Protector of Chinese, speaks in high praise of the system now adopted for obtaining interpreters, and reports favourably on the three Chinese student interpreters now employed under the magistrate, and already proposes the appointment of one of them to the Supreme Court.

Education.

66. The duties of the Superintendent of Education have been performed by the magistrates in Penang and Province Wellesley.

67. A comparative return showing the average enrolment and attendance at vernacular schools in Penang and Province Wellesley is given in Appendix L.* also a return* showing the revenue and expenditure on these schools during 1883, as compared with 1882.

68. At the "Free School," under Mr. G. Griffin, Headmaster, the average enrolment for the year was 628, as against 609 in 1882, the average attendance being 488 as against 466. The number of passes obtained was 1,440 or 72 per cent., as against 1,376 or 73 per cent.

69. At the Government English Branch School, Mr. Goldham, Headmaster, a good elementary English teaching is given to boys of an average age of 11 years whose parents cannot afford to pay high fees. Since its opening, three years ago, the school has been held in the disused Presbyterian Church, but is to be removed to other and more commodious buildings in 1884. 72 per cent. of the boys in this school are Chinese, 28 per cent. Malays and Klings. The average enrolment was 128·3 and average daily attendance 106·7, or 82 per cent. In 1882 the average enrolment was 73, and attendance 54.

70. Forty-two (42) boys were presented, as against 22, and obtained 95 per cent. of passes, as against 94.

71. The Brothers' school, under Rev. Brother Aloysius.—The average enrolment for the year 1883 was 248.

* Not printed.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

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72. One hundred and fifty-six (156) boys were presented for examination in November and obtained 84 per cent. of passes. In Standard VI. 23 full passes were obtained.

73. Five boys competed for the English Government scholarships in December last, two of whom obtained the 2nd and 5th scholarships respectively.

74. St. Maur's Orphanage and Girls' School.—The Lady Superior reports that 93 pupils were presented for examination, and obtained 92 per cent. of passes. The studies are reading, writing, arithmetic, geography, grammar, composition; extra subjects, history of England, and needlework. The needlework obtained 100 per cent. of passes. The average enrolment was 168 pupils, and the average attendance 150.

75. Vernacular Schools.—The Central Malay School was opened on the 20th June under the direct management of Shaik Eman, the visiting teacher of vernacular schools, who resides on the spot. The attendance has already so much increased that it has become necessary to build two new class-rooms.

76. Five new schools were opened in Penang, viz., at Rĕlau, Carnarvon Street, Permâtang Damar, Laut, Pulau Kra, and Ghinting. In Province Wellesley, eight new schools were opened in different districts, with a total of 350 more boys on the rolls.

77. In 1882, the enrolment of boys in Province Wellesley schools was 307, which was increased in 1883 to 856, with an average attendance of 633.

78. During the year eight boys were sent from Province Wellesley schools to the training college in Singapore. This is satisfactory, but there is still much to be done to ensure full educational results in the settlement.

79. The Tamil schools in Province Wellesley, in which the Rev. Mr. Courtney is interested, continue to progress very satisfactorily. They are chiefly to provide the need for education amongst the boys on the estates. A new Tamil school, opened under private management at Butterworth, has been inspected and brought under Government control.

80. The Chinese schools at Bukit Mertâjam under the Rev. F. Sorin, and receiving a Government grant-in-aid, are also favourably reported on by the Acting Superintendent of Education.

Medical.

81. The report of the Senior Medical Officer, Dr. Hampshire, on the health of the Settlement is, on the whole, favourable. Cholera and small-pox, when they have appeared in a few sporadic cases, have been traced to importation from surrounding countries where the diseases were rife. In cholera cases the disease has been confined to the house in which it occurred, or at most to the adjoining house.

82. Dr. Hampshire remarks on the improved sanitary condition of the town everywhere, but justly states that much has yet to be done.

83. The rainfall, which for the three preceding years was 122, 99, and 101 inches respectively, was this year only 92·17 inches.

General Hospital.

84. The new hospital buildings, including the lock, were occupied during the year, and their accommodation is pronounced to be admirable, and the grounds ample, and, as the plants and shrubs grow up, will by-and-by present a pleasing appearance.

85. A few trifling additions and alterations are asked for, which have been laid before the Government.

86. There were 134 Europeans treated, and the officers' wards were in general requisition throughout the latter part of the year.

87. The total treated in the new native hospital amounted to 858.

88. The appointment of a second medical officer is much appreciated, as the sick, including the paupers, numbered between 400 and 500, and the work had quite outgrown the staff.

89. The want of trained nurses, as in the Madras hospitals, is insisted upon by the Senior Medical Officer, and the attention of the Principal Civil Medical Officer has been invited to the subject.

Pauper Hospital.

90. The total number treated was only 1,672, against 2,010 in the preceding year, and the Colonial Surgeon attributes this falling off to a diminution in the pauper class, caused by the rise of wages and the facility of obtaining employment.

91. Beri-beri still assumes a prominent position amongst the diseases treated, and the admissions are increasing.

92. All the buildings are well maintained, and contain beds for 254 patients; and the hospital is visited regularly by members of the committee.

Leper Hospital.

93. The fine new wards of this asylum are all but completed, and are reported to be well adapted for the class of patients for which they are intended. Quarters for a dresser and interpreter and an office dispensary and store-room have been added to the range of buildings.

94. There is still a complaint as to the inefficiency of the water supply, which is now under consideration by the Public Works Department.

95. The admissions during the year amounted to 46, and the deaths to 28, or a per-centage of 26·16. This is a considerable reduction on last year, and, considering the class of cases admitted, is an average rate.

96. The special oil treatment is continued, but nothing approaching to a cure appears to have occurred through its use. The hygienic condition of the lepers, says Dr. Hampshire, first

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receives marked attention, and it is impossible to state whether results are due to the one or the other, or to both combined.

97. Annexed is a return of the inmates, showing their nationalities.*

Gaol Hospital.

98. The health of the prisoners has been good, the number of admissions into gaol was 3,332, and of this number only 93 required treatment in hospital.

99. The Senior Medical Officer refers at length to the dietary, and considers that possibly a reduction might be made with advantage in cases where the sentence does not exceed six months.

Vaccination.

100. The total number vaccinated amounted to 2,184, or an increase of 529. In the more populous districts, the public vaccinator has been accompanied by Mr. Apothecary Baptiste, whose principal duties are, however, in connexion with sanitary matters in the town and suburbs.

101. Vaccination was also commenced in the south of the Island with much success; Shortt's needle being the instrument used.

102. Complaint is still made that the local lymph is often floccu-lent and useless for successful vaccination.

Balik Pulau Hospital.

103. This is a new hospital which was opened in the south of the Island on the 21st July. Between that date and the 31st December there were 107 admissions. 96 of these were Chinese, 6 were Klings, and 5 from amongst the Malays. The chief diseases were ulcer, beri-beri, and rheumatism.

104. The first ward erected was of 80 feet by 20 feet, and contained 18 beds, but a second ward is being added by the liberality of Mr. Koh Siang Tat, a wealthy landowner in the district, and will also contain 18 to 20 beds.

There is a resident apothecary, for whom very suitable quarters have been built by the State.

105. The ryots in this district much appreciate the advantages that have now been brought to them after the lapse of so many years.

Province Wellesley.

106. The admissions into the four Government hospitals during the year were 1,542, against 2,245 in 1882, and the deaths were 133 against 190 in 1882, or a per-centage of deaths to admissions of 8·62 against 8·37 in 1882.

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* Not printed.

107. The average daily sick was 90·12 against 107·6 in 1882.

108. Cholera broke out in an epidemic form in the north of the province, and isolated cases occurred in the south.

109. Much could not be done, Dr. McClosky says, in the way of medical treatment, for not only were the Malays, amongst which race the disease chiefly occurred, averse to our treatment, but they failed to report cases to the police. Beri-beri also prevailed to a slight extent, there being, however, only 75 cases, as against 356 last year.

110. It is not necessary to give in detail the admissions in each of the four hospitals, as this information appears in the returns of the principal Civil Medical Officer.

111. The estate hospitals are reported to have been efficiently worked during the year.

112. The rainfall is given as 81·73, against 99·25 last year.

JUDICIAL.

Supreme Court.

113. The amount of work performed in this court has continued to be about the same for the last three years. There were 207 criminal cases and 449 civil cases, 250 ecclesiastical cases, with 9 Crown suits and 12 magistrates' appeals during the year now under review.

114. The number of bills of sale registered Mr. Harwood, the registrar, reports as increasing largely year by year, there being 1,912 in 1881, 2,359 in 1882, and 2,698 in 1883.

115. The sittings of the court have been continuous and uninterrupted throughout the year, save by a three weeks' vacation at Christmas. On the arrival of Mr. Justice Ford in March opportunity was taken by the judge to hold two courts during the assizes, which opened on the 19th of March and closed on the 27th of that month. A Court of Appeal also sat from the 29th to 31st March. Later on in the year the Chief Justice again arrived in Penang, and sat at the fourth assize, which commenced on the 23rd July and concluded on the 3rd August, while Mr. Justice Wood was engaged in trying cases on the civil side.

116. The Registrar brings to notice the annually increasing work in the Supreme Court. Between the years 1870 and 1873, the number of civil cases was 1,063, and between the years 1880 and 1883 the number had increased to 3,004, and that criminal cases have also increased, though not quite in the same proportion.

Magistrates' Court and Court of Requests, Penang.

117. During the year, there were 8,402 cases tried, in which 11,947 persons were brought up by summons, summary arrest, or warrant.

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118. Of these, the following were convicted and punished:—

By fine - - - -	5,983
„ peremptory imprisonment - -	455
„ whipping - - - -	37
bound over - - - -	178
cautioned and discharged - -	779
	7,432

119. The number of cases committed for trial before the Supreme Court was 99, and the number of persons implicated 134.

120. The work of the police court was carried on by the first and second magistrates assisted by the third magistrate, who sat three days a week in Penang and three days in Province Wellesley.

121. In October a new court was opened at Rĕlau Police Station, nine miles south from town. Court is held there twice a month, and on the alternate Saturdays at Balik Pulau, which is 11 miles from town and over the Ayer Etam Pass.

122. These country courts Mr. Kynnersley reports as being much appreciated by the people, and it is contemplated by the Government to erect a permanent court house for Balik Pulau in 1884.

123. The fees this year amounted to $1,772.55, while for 1882 they were $1,808.75.

124. A comparative statement of revenue and expenditure of the Court of Requests during the years 1881, 1882, and 1883, and actions commenced and cases tried, is given in Appendix P.*

Magistrates' Court and Court of Requests, Province Wellesley.

125. There was a considerable increase in the number of persons brought up for trial, viz., 4,255 cases in 1882, and 8,400 cases in 1883, or an increase of 4,145.

126. A large proportion of these cases came from the estates. In 1882, there were 1,285 coolie cases, against 4,058 in 1883, or an increase of 2,773.

127. Most of these cases are for absence from and neglect to work amongst the indentured coolies, and for other coolies' breach of contract under "The Master and Servants Ordinance," No. I. of 1882.

128. There was a decrease in the number of cases before the Court of Requests, there being only 773 cases, against 997 in 1882.

Gaols.

129. Appended to this report are statements* showing the admissions and disposal of prisoners in the criminal and civil prison during the year.

* Not printed.

130. Captain Wodehouse, the Acting Superintendent, reports favourably on the prison staff, also that the discipline of the prison has been well maintained, and that the conduct of the prisoners has been fair.

131. Of the 1,782 prisoners admitted during the year, 43 were Europeans, 914 Chinese, 192 Malays, and 633 Indians.

132. There has been one escape during the year, but the prisoner was recaptured the next day, tried, and sentenced to three months' rigorous imprisonment in addition to his former sentence.

133. The gaoler's quarters have been added to, and improvements effected in the female ward.

134. The returns connected with the prison are forwarded separately to the Government.

Police.

135. The police during the year have been under the supervision of Mr. Superintendent Bell and Mr. Herbert Riccard, who is at present the Acting Superintendent of Police. The special charge of the Province Wellesley police has been under Mr. R. Falkner.

136. The Sikh police attached to the force have been made up to their full complement of 65 men, and they have all been taught artillery drill with heavy guns and field pieces. The European contingent is still much below the authorised strength.

137. Mounted police have been introduced to the number of seven, and these are employed on frontier work in Province Wellesley. Mr. Bell was of opinion that a small number would be useful as night patrols in the suburbs of Penang Town. They could also be turned to account, he thought, in quelling small tribal riots among the Chinese.

138. The discipline of the force generally is well reported on, but the Malay and Kling contingents are still believed to be underpaid, as contrasted with coolie wages ruling in the place, and from these races good and efficient men cannot be obtained for police duties, which are, in point of fact, heavier, and involving more responsibility. This has now the special attention of Government.

139. Both in Penang and Province Wellesley murders have, it is regretted, been prevalent in a marked degree. There were five cases in Penang and eight in Province Wellesley.

140. A case in Penang on the 7th January was that of a Chinaman, named Leong Ah Seow, a watchman in the "Min Ajen Song" Kongsee House, Bishop Street, who was murdered in a small room in the above Kongsee House sometime between the hours of 10 p.m., the 6th, and 6 a.m., the 7th January, 1883. The matter was first reported to the police at 7.45 a.m. on the 7th January 1883, and on their arrival the murdered man was found lying on the floor in front of his bed with his throat cut, and apparently had been dead for some hours, the floor of the

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room was all covered with blood as if a struggle had taken place, and the murdered man's keys were found in the lock of his box and also covered with blood.

141. The supposed cause of the murder was owing to the fact that the deceased was believed to be in possession of a large sum of money which he was known to have collected for the Kongsee on the day previous, but it had so happened that he had paid over the collection at once to the headman of the Kongsee.

142. Although every effort has been made by the police, no trace of the murderer has been discovered. A reward of $200 was offered for any information which might lead to the discovery of the guilty party or parties, but until now without effect.

143. Another, on the 30th May, was that of a Chinaman named Tay Ah Cheoh. Tay Ah Choon, brother of the deceased, reported at Balik Pulau Police Station that he had come from Bayan Lepas to visit his brother Tay Ah Cheoh, who was the only person who lived in a hut on a plantation at Matang Pasir (Sungei Pînang). Tay Ah Choon found his brother's door locked from the outside, and on looking in through a hole in the attap or thatch he was horrified to see what appeared to be his brother Tay Ah Cheoh lying dead face downwards on the floor, and he at once ran to give information. Inspector McGregor proceeded to make inquiries into the case and found, as described, the door locked with a padlock on the outside. On entering, he found a dead body, that of Tay Ah Cheoh, lying on the floor face downwards, he apparently having been dead about two weeks. Upon a further inspection, a fearful wound was found on the top of the head about two inches in circumference, death appearing to have been caused by a violent blow with some blunt instrument.

144. The house where deceased was found is about 500 yards from any other house, and the last who is known to have seen him alive was a surveyor named MacKenzie, who saw him about the 17th of May 1883.

145. The supposed cause of murder was that deceased was of very saving habits, and it was believed he possessed a considerable sum of money.

146. An inquest and post-mortem examination were held on the body at Balik Pulau on the 1st June 1883, and a verdict returned of wilful murder against some person or persons unknown.

147. The Superintendent of Police and detective inspectors were at once informed, and every possible inquiry was made, but up to this date, no clue has been obtained.

148. A third was one that occurred on the 19th June. A Chinaman, named Lee Chong Yew, came and reported to Corporal 17, Mat, that at 1 a.m. on the 19th June, 1883, he and his brother were minding their fruit trees on their plantation at Batu Feringghi, when they saw a man stealing fruit. They both called out, when the man ran away followed by Lee Chong Yew and his brother. After his brother had got near the thief, he fell, and

Lee Chong Yew thinking that he had been stabbed by the robber took aim with a gun which he had in his hand and fired, killing the thief. Complainant and his brother were detained and Corporal 17, Mat, went in search of the wounded man, whom he found lying on his face, dead.

149. Inspector Shuckford and the Coroner went the next morning to the spot. An inquest was held, and a verdict of murder was returned against Lee Chong Yew, who was tried at the Supreme Court, and, on a review of all the circumstances, he was sentenced to 12 months' rigorous imprisonment.

150. Of those murders committed in Province Wellesley most of the guilty parties have been apprehended and brought to justice.

151. Gang robberies have also not been unfrequent in Province Wellesley, and it is to be regretted that this class of crime is not yet on the decrease in the Settlement.

152. During the year the village of Bukit Mertâjam in Province Wellesley was again destroyed by fire, and on the 17th December Batu Kawan village was also partially destroyed by fire, originating from a cook-house under a thatched roof.

153. Efforts were made to induce the people to erect their houses of less inflammable material, but these have only been partially successful.

154. The Superintendent of Police reports that gambling still continues amongst the Chinese, and that the police are almost powerless in checking it. The matter still engages the attention of Government.

Public Works.

155. In 1882 the expenditure on public works amounted to $218,825.43. This outlay has been exceeded in 1883 by $136,131.61. In other words, the total expenditure on public works in 1883 was $354,957.04.

156. The principal works which go to bring up this large increase, are the general and lock hospitals, gaol warders' quarters, both for European and native, the lighthouse at Muka Head on the north of the Island, the large extension of the Leper Asylum at Pulau Jerajah, on an island eight miles from Penang, and which is now the asylum for all lepers in the Colony, the improvement to the ferries in Province Wellesley, and the construction of the wharf wall and reclamation along the sea face of the town. There has also been spent a considerable sum on the metalling of the roads in Province Wellesley.

157. The work done by the branch of the Department employed in surveying is, I regret to say, still far from satisfactory.

158. No doubt a better retrospect will be put forward next year, when the land and survey organization, now under consideration by Government, is more fully established.

(Signed) J. F. A. McNAIR,

Penang, 7th May 1883. Acting Resident Councillor.

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APPENDIX.

Malakoff Estate, Province Wellesley,

MY DEAR MAJOR MCNAIR, November 19, 1883.

AT my request one of the head pepper planters of Arra Kudah came here this morning to answer my inquiries regarding their mode of cultivation, &c. He says that pepper should always be planted on land sufficiently high to be easily drained, but may be flat. Rich, light soil is preferred, although it succeeds well on stiff soil, where the vine produces fruit for a longer period than on light soils, but is, of course, more expensive to cultivate.

On rich soil they plant at the same distances apart as Mr. Dobree recommends, viz., 7 feet by 7 feet, otherwise they plant closer, as the vines do not grow so large on inferior soils, requiring less room. At Arra Kudah they plant six feet apart each way.

At Arra Kudah they first plant a nursery with cuttings, each slip having a hardwood stick about two or three feet long near it to cling to. At the same time, they plant out in the field the supporting trees called in Malay *dedup* at intervals of six feet each way, which are allowed to grow for one year before transplanting the pepper plants from the nursery near them, which plants are, of course, then also one year old. In that time, the *dedup* tree grows from 12 to 15 feet high. Then holes are made one foot square and the same depth, prepared as Mr. Dobree describes, near each tree, in which they plant the cuttings taken from the nursery. Only one plant is put in each hole. They do not make a small mound round each vine as Mr. Dobree says the Chinese do at Singapore. No manure at all is used.

The vines of three years' growth in the field yield their first small crop. Two years after they are in full bearing, yeilding an average of about three and a half catties per vine of dry black pepper. An acre contains one thousand two hundred (1,200) vines yeilding at this rate forty two (42) pikuls. This greatly exceeds Mr. Dobree's account of the returns at Singapore, although manure is used there and not at Arra Kudah.

The pepper is gathered about the middle of the year, and is dried by being spread out on the ground exposed to the sun and wind, fire not being used.

He did not know the difference of weight between green and dry pepper, but thinks it is not nearly so great as described by Mr. Dobree.

To make white pepper they bury thoroughly ripe black pepper in damp ground for five days, when they take it up. By that time the skin is rotted, which is washed off and the corns then dried in the sun.

I did not inquire the cost of cultivation, to compare with Mr. Dobree's estimate, as nothing reliable could be learnt on this

point and would be most likely misleading rather than otherwise. No doubt it is much less costly to the Achinese here than to the Chinese in Singapore.

The above is all the information I could obtain without visiting Arra Kudah, which I hope will be sufficient for your purpose.

Yours sincerely,

H. DEMORNAY.

MALACCA.

No. 19.

ADMINISTRATION REPORT, MALACCA, 1883.

The revenue for the year under review shows an increase of $94,297 over that of 1882, viz., $286,166 against $191,869.

2. This is chiefly due to the rise on the re-letting of the Excise farms from $101,741 to $191,794. There were also increases as under:—

	1882.	1883.	Increase.
	$	$	$
Land revenue - - - -	64,190	66,772	2,582
Postage - - - - -	1,242	1,778	536
Fees of office - - - -	907	1,775	868
Reimbursements - - -	4,732	5,876	1,144
Special receipts - - - -	820	1,151	331
	—	—	5,461

3. On the other hand, there were diminished receipts as under:—

	1882.	1883.	Decrease.
	$	$	$
Stamps - - - - -	12,235	11,541	694
Fines, forfeitures, and fees of court -	4,203	3,817	386
	—	—	1,080

4. The following figures show the revenue for 1883 and the four preceding years:—

	$
1879 - - - -	147,956
1880 - - - -	181,948
1881 - - - -	204,858
1882 - - -	191,869
1883 - - - -	286,166

Expenditure.

5. The expenditure for the year was $266,020.

6. The expenditure for 1883 and the four preceding years was as under :—

	$
1879 - - - -	162,558
1880 - - - -	178,052
1881 - - - -	168,773
1882 - - - -	224,372
1883 - - - -	266,020

7. Statements of the revenue and expenditure in detail will be found attached (*A* & *B*).*

REVENUE DETAILED.

Land.

4. Under this head, though not attaining (owing to the comparatively small amount realised for premium) to the figures for 1881, the revenue shows a fair increase upon that obtained in 1882, as appears in the figures given beneath :—

	1882.	1883.
	$ c.	$ c.
Premium - - - - -	646 64	2,393 60
Rents (current) - - - -	49,530 68	50,708 15
Do. (arrears) - - - -	3,257 89	4,733 31
Tenths and royalties, coral and granite -	375 90	381 40
Do. tin - - -	350 97	794 12
Do. brick kilns - -	94 80	112 95
Do. padi - - -	1,680 36	1,393 35
Do. wood, oil - -	498 99	520 23
Do. gambier - -	1,080 54	797 64
Do. tapioca - -	3,488 77	1,619 70
Do. fruit - - -	480 39	719 25
Do. timber - -	2,029 64	1,709 77
Do. sand - -	507 87	768 10
Fees on registration - - -	167 00	121 00
	64,190 44	66,772 57

9. From these figures it will be seen that there is an increase upon all the items of any importance except those of padi, gambier, tapioca, and timber. These increases require no special explanation, but it may be said that in the matter of premium the increase would have been larger were it not for the depressed state of the tapioca trade.

10. The increase in rents, $2,632.89, is due to leases issued in 1882, and to arrears. I had hoped that a greater amount of arrears would have been got in, but it has turned out more difficult than was anticipated, and should have been taken in hand earlier in the year.

* Not printed.

11. The very small amount realised on padi is accounted for by a bad season in 1882 following on previous bad seasons and previous loss of buffaloes by an epidemic, which much reduced the quantity planted; what was planted was also considerably damaged by the attacks of vermin as well as by the unfavourable weather.

12. The decrease in the receipts from gambier is due to the abandonment of lands in the Sungei Bharu and Âyer Môlek districts.

13. The considerable fall under tapioca is to be explained by the receipt of a large sum, $2,086, in 1882 for one encroachment.

14. The season for fruit was by no means a good one, but the receipts have been improved by the collection of tenths on cocoa-nuts from inland lands.

Timber Royalty.

15. The diminution apparent in this item is accounted for by a large sum received in 1882 in an encroachment case.

Licenses.

16. A large increase, already referred to, in the revenue from licenses for 1883 is given in detail in the following table:—

—	1882.	1883.
	$	$
Opium - - - - -	72,600	153,600
Spirits - - - - -	27,000	34,200
Pawnbrokers - - - -	2,100	3,960
Public-houses - - - -	41	34
	101,741	191,794

STAMP REVENUE.

17. This branch of the revenue, in spite of the efforts that have been made, still remains practically stationary, as shown by the figures below:—

—	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.
	$	$	$	$
Commercial - - -	4,888	5,450	5,800	5,714
Judicial - - - -	6,748	5,568	6,434	5,826
	11,636	11,018	12,234	11,540

Fines, Forfeitures, and Fees of Court.

18. The figures under this head for the year 1883 and the four preceding years show as follows :—

—	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.
	$	$	$	$	$
Land cases - -	535	1,293	1,166	895	822
Fines in other cases, and fees, &c.	2,858	4,071	4,729	3,308	2,995
	3,393	5,364	5,895	4,203	3,817

19. The figures in the land cases do not by any means represent the total amount received on account of encroachments, and timber unlawfully cut, or other materials taken without passes; in many cases the parties came to terms without the matter being brought before the magistrate, and the amounts agreed on are paid into the land office.

Reimbursements.

20. The figures for these are stated below :—

—	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.
	$	$	$	$	$
Survey fees - -	9,025	4,128	3,390	221	1,337
Municipal contribution	3,600	3,600	3,600	3,600	3,600
Other items -	604	512	1,007	910	939
	13,229	8,240	7,997	4,731	5,866

21. The increase in survey fees is due to a few large surveys. When the survey staff is strengthened, as it is expected to be before long, the reimbursements under this head will be more considerable.

Other Items of Revenue.

22. These items, viz., rents, exclusive of lands, port and harbour dues, postage, fees of office, sale of Government property, miscellaneous, and special, produced the following amounts for the five years ending with 1883 :—

	$
1879 - - - -	3,302
1880 - - - -	4,165
1881 - - - -	5,679
1882 - - - -	4,767
1883 - - - -	6,364

23. Of the foregoing items, postage still maintains a steady increase, as shown in the following figures:—

	$
1879 - - - -	791
1880 - - - -	907
1881 - - - -	990
1882 - - - -	1,211
1883 - - - -	1,778

This is in part due to prosecutions for the introduction of unstamped letters into the Settlement by Chinese.

Expenditure Detailed.

24. From the figures given hereunder will be seen the cost of establishments and the other chief items of expenditure for the last three years:—

	1881.	1882.	1883.
	$	$	$
Establishments - - - -	80,656	85,403	92,460
Pensions - - - -	8,215	8,928	7,956
Education - - - -	11,187	12,206	14,210
Transport - - - -	7,359	8,279	9,870
Works and buildings - - -	12,085	42,222	62,809
Roads, streets, and bridges - -	22,259	43,953	47,772
	141,771	200,991	235,077

Works and Buildings.

25. The chief works undertaken were the new pauper and general hospitals at Dûsun Dûrian Daun, about 1½ miles out of town, and the new High School with head master's quarters on the back of St. Paul's Hill, at respective costs of $23,660 and $29,999.* These works were not completed by the end of the year, but some of the pauper hospital wards were occupied before its close, while the High School will take a little longer to complete.

26. The other works will be noticed in connection with the departments to which they belong.

27. A general view of them with their cost can be obtained from statement *C.*†

* Probable cost. † Not printed.

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MALACCA.

Roads, Streets, and Bridges.

28. The departmental system has continued to have the good effect reported for 1882, and when the heavy rollers, shortly expected, arrive, a more marked improvement may be anticipated. But the staff employed is too small to adequately cope with the demands upon it, and its extension is greatly required.

29. On the general upkeep, $50,893 were spent, as against $29,995 in 1882. But a considerable further expenditure is required to keep all the roads in bare working order.

30. The chief special works under this head were raising and remetalling road from town limit to Malim, metalling road from Âyer Pânas to Kĕsang Tûha, constructing bridle path from Sungei Bharu to the banks of the Rĕmbau opposite our station at Sempang.

31. The two first were much needed works. The last, though it does not, owing to the swampy nature of the country across the Rĕmbau, attain the original object of its construction—direct communication with Sungei Ujong,—is yet a decided benefit to the people of the district through which it passes, and they already so regard it.

Municipal Revenue and Expenditure.

32. The figures below give the municipal revenue and expenditure for the last five years:—

—	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	$	$
1879 - - - - -	17,528	16,791
1880 - - - - -	22,429	18,899
1881 - - - - -	25,054	21,462
1882 - - - - -	25,444	30,107
1883 - - - - -	27,188	26,465

33. For certain reasons, the proposed extension of the 5 per cent. assessment on lands has not, so far, been carried out, and in view of the depressed state of the tapioca industry, and of possible changes in the district administration, it is probably advisable to wait still further.

34. The town drainage scheme has been elaborated, and plans and estimates prepared, and with the assistance of a loan from Government, it is hoped that this important work may, before long, be taken in hand. It may likewise be anticipated that the realisation of the scheme of the equally needed waterworks is not far distant.

LAND.

35. The following figures give the leases on the rent roll up to the end of 1883, as compared with 1882 :—

—	Number.		Area.		Annual Rent.	
	1882.	1883.	1882.	1883.	1882.	1883.
					$	$
5 years - -	116	125*	532	505	155	146
10 „ - -	387	384	93,550	91,203	52,994	52,513
15 „ - -	7	7	15	15	6	6
20 „ - -	3,212	3,199	12,549	12,531	3,875	3,871
99 „ - -	138	138	319	319	223	223
999 „ - -	200	203	1,957	2,097	554	610
Certificate of tenure in perpetuity of commuted tenths	77	91	258	312	88	110

* Thirteen of these were erroneously entered under 20-year leases in 1882, and 4 cancelled in 1883.

36. Expired leases will be found in the table below :

Expired Leases.

Expired Leases borne on rent roll 1883.	Number.		Area.		Rent.	
	1882.	1883.	1882.	1883.	1882.	1883.
					$	$
5 years - -	116	122	532	502	155	146
10 „ - -	127	123	11,740	10,059	2,964	2,714
15 „ - -	7	7	15	15	6	6
20 „ - -	—	462	—	1,600	—	560

37. The weakness of the Survey Department still remains a hindrance in the way of dealing with these cases.

38. As a scheme of district administration is now under consideration, I do not propose to repeat or add to the suggestions I made in my report for 1882, in regard to the collection of land revenue.

39. The question of the forest reserves has been taken up, and proposals have been submitted with regard to their demarcation, while nurseries for valuable trees have already been started under the supervision of a European overseer subordinate to the superintendent of the Botanic Gardens in Singapore. With regard to the Reserves near town, questions of compensation and of Crown rights arise which may present some difficulty, but it is probably worth while to entertain the one, and it may be hoped that, in the interests of the Settlement, the other may be satisfactorily decided.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

MALACCA

40. The question of gambier (and pepper) leases still awaits decision, and I adhere to the opinion that they should be issued, for twenty or thirty years, according to the quality of land to be cleared. After being abandoned for the purposes of this cultivation, the land can be planted with cocoa-nut and other fruit trees.

41. The titles for land issued during the last five years are given below:—

Period of title.	1879.		1880.		1881.		1882.		1883.	
	No.	Area.	No.	Area.	No.	Area.	No.	Area.	No.	Area.
10 years - -	35	17,602	103	28,966	20	13,576	5	4,534	4	572
20 „ - -	—	—	1	6	—	—	—	—	—	—
99 „ - -	1	1	1	1	4	6	—	—	—	—
999 „ - -	62	621	15	208	13	246	7	165	3	140
Land certificates -	—	—	—	—	—	—	17	85	14	54
Total - -	98	18,224	120	29,181	37	13,828	29	4,784	21	766

42. As in the previous year's report, I have again to state that the small number of titles issued of late is due to the want of strength in the Survey Department, a great part of its time having been taken up with frontier boundary surveys, the survey of the numerous encroachments reported during the last two or three years, and in no small measure to the re-survey of lands already alienated necessitated by the imperfect nature of the original survey at the time the lease was issued, The applications for land not dealt with would furnish occupation for a large staff of surveyors.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

43. The value of imports and exports for the past five years is shown in the following figures:—

—	Imports.	Exports.
	$	$
1879 - - - -	2,718,343	2,770,123
1880 - - - -	3,317,848	3,634,640
1881 - - - -	3,664,230	3,919,431
1882 - - - -	4,082,136	4,074,041
1883 - - - -	4,046,122	3,988,503

44. In the succeeding table will be found the values of the chief articles of import and export for the last five years:—

—		1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1882.
		$	$	$	$	$
Padi and Rice	Imports	525,963	586,688	651,263	768,808	778,311
	Exports	197,208	197,799	190,668	194,042	172,476
Tapioca	Imports	14,175	46,495	46,884	99,154	99,569
	Exports	521,832	844,238	925,748	889,531	973,406
Tin	Imports	1,140,943	1,164,335	1,512,164	1,670,560	1,830,249
	Exports	1,058,839	1,340,655	1,798,909	1,868,132	1,925,262
Opium	Imports	196,000	179,300	185,575	159,315	179,760
	Exports	162,000	150,150	146,085	151,354	139,790
Specie	Imports	572,255	1,003,059	908,680	961,730	743,525
	Exports	487,131	735,740	586,576	658,178	478,168
Fish	Imports	8,911	23,129	39,646	42,659	61,218
	Exports	5,881	5,163	51,961	41,699	37,874
Fruit	Imports	—	—	—	853	1,494
	Exports	9,084	5,976	6,716	3,988	4,745

Padi.

45. The increase in the import and decrease in the export of padi is to be accounted for, as in the four preceding years by the additional local absorption due to bad seasons,

Tapioca.

46. In spite of bad prices prevailing, the export of tapioca increased during the past year, owing to additional area under cultivation; the import (from Sungei Ujong) shows nearly the same figures as the year before.

Tin.

47. It will be noticed that in this article there is a very considerable rise in the value of the imports, probably due to the progress of tin mining in Sĕlângor, whence the ore is brought to Malacca to be re-smelted before exported to Singapore. There is likewise a noticeable, but smaller, increase in the export.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

MALACCA.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES.

48. The following tables shows the tonnage of the vessels which came to and left Malacca, and the countries whence they came and for which they were bound, for the last five years:—

Countries.	1879.		1880.		1881.		1882.		1883.	
	Tonnage.		Tonnage.		Tonnage.		Tonnage.		Tonnage.	
	Arrivals.	Departures.	Arrivals.	Departures.	Arrivals.	Departures.	Arrivals.	Departures.	Arrivals.	Departures.
Singapore - -	94,565	76,912	84,111	91,425	103,280	95,152	99,931	97,068	101,732	106,768
Penang - -	33,716	46,657	27,390	32,689	26,484	39,143	37,767	42,162	39,306	35,380
Malay States -	19,109	24,660	26,292	26,605	32,488	32,741	35,469	37,086	18,689	19,787
Sumatra - -	9,914	10,129	7,255	6,756	3,277	3,851	6,877	7,906	5,928	5,316
Calcutta - -	33,057	24,080	25,735	18,608	31,318	28,452	25,126	25,054	35,860	34,319
United Kingdom -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	295	—
Other places -	2,145	1,073	6,611	2,930	1,211	30	1,321	461	125	—

Native Craft.

49. *Difference between arrivals and departures.*—This is still to be observed, but it is confined to the earlier part of the year, and has been since much reduced owing to a few prosecutions.

POSTAL.

50. These returns continue to show a satisfactory increase as below:—

Number of Letters.

	1881.	1882.	1883.
Received - - - -	47,091	55,274	64,918
Despatched - - - -	34,114	42,124	49,276

Registered Articles.

——	1882.	1883.
Received - - - -	1,090	1,449
Despatched - - - -	762	1,172

Money Orders (Local).

——	1882.	1883.
	$	$
Issued - - - - -	1,302	1,528
Paid - - - - -	1,094	1,111

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.

51. The following figures show the number of prisoners brought before the magistrate in the years 1879, 1880, 1881, 1882, 1883 :—

——	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.
Committed to Supreme Court - -	28	22	39	29	39
Convicted - -	1,267	1,640	1,168	1,041	1,361
Ordered to give security	99	174	114	100	96
Discharged -	1,086	998	1,011	1,154	1,315
Not decided - -	22	58	11	76	51
	2,502	2,892	2,343	2,400	2,862

Supreme Court Criminal Cases.

Number of cases - - -	26
Convictions - - - -	18
Acquittals - - - -	7
Nolle prosequi - - - -	1

Convictions.

Offences.	Number of Prisoners.	Punishment.		
		Simple Imprisonment.	Rigorous Imprisonment.	Fine.
Attempted suicide - -	—	—	—	—
Theft, prisoners convicted -	3	—	3	—
Mischief by fire - -	—	—	—	—
Culpable homicide - -	2	—	2	—
Forgery - - - -	—	—	—	—
Housebreaking and theft - -	3	—	3	—
Kidnapping - - -	—	—	—	—
Cheating - - - -	2	—	2	—
Giving false evidence - -	1	—	1	—
Theft - - - -	1	—	1	—
Gang robbery - - -	7	—	7	—
	19	—	19	—

Civil Cases.

53. The following are the figures for the civil cases:—

Number of cases heard.	Damages involved.	Settled.	Judgment for Defendant.	Damages for Plaintiff.
133	$ 52,483	37	8	$ 19,556

54. There was one bankruptcy case.

55. There were 161 probate and administration cases, involving property to the amount of $57,750.

POLICE.

56. Superintendent Hayward took his pension from the 1st April, when he was relieved by Acting Superintendent Hogge.

Inspectors.

57. The three officers of this rank have charge of the town and Eastern and Western divisions, those in charge of the two latter being constantly on the move through their districts.

Constables.

58. During the year, 12 men resigned, eight were dismissed, and three discharged, one died from beri-beri, and one from fever. One of the Sikh contingent was dismissed.

Two constables were convicted of theft before the magistrate and sent to gaol and dismissed the force, and two were similarly dealt with for desertion and theft of uniform.

Another was likewise punished by the same authority for extortion.

Two others were punished by the magistrate; the one with fine, the other with imprisonment, for absence, and were subsequently re-instated in the force.

One Sikh was convicted of cheating by the magistrate, sent to gaol and dismissed the force.

Twenty-one (21) recruits joined the force during the year.

59. The Sikh contingent, 22 men under a sergeant and two corporals, introduced in February 1883, have behaved very well, make good sentries, and have proved useful as escorts to the Resident Councillor when he has visited the neighbouring Native States.

New Stations and Barracks.

60. New station and barracks at central station on the site of the old military barracks, a portion of the latter being converted into quarters for two Inspectors. Constables' barracks were also completed at Mĕrlîmau and Kandang.

CORONER.

61. The Superintendent of Police as coroner held 56 inquests during the year, and the following verdicts were returned:—

Murder - - - - -	2
Homicide - - - -	1
Felo-de-se - - - -	2
Accidental deaths - -	29
Natural causes - - -	10
Open verdicts - - - -	12
	56

62. Of the two cases of murder, the offender in one has never been discovered; in the other he was brought to trial and convicted. In the case of homicide, the offender was sentenced to six months' rigorous imprisonment.

CHINESE AND MALAY SOCIETIES.

63. The following figures show the numbers borne on the registers for the last five years, but not the number of actual members, as the names of those who cease to be members are not struck off:—

—	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.
Gi Hin - - -	1,380	1,778	2,549	3,281	4,524
Do., Macao - - -	282	282	344	404	454
Gi Bu - - -	556	556	581	592	640
Hok Beng - - -	1,126	1,126	1,802	2,403	2,751
Hei San - - - -	156	357	440	504	559
	3,500	4,099	5,716	7,184	8,928

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

MALACCA.

64. There have been no troubles during the year, but I am disposed to think that the societies here have more power than they have in the other Settlements, and that it would be well if the Chinese Protectorate could spare some time for their supervision, which it is obvious cannot be so efficiently maintained by the local Head of the Police who possesses no knowledge of Chinese, and I should be glad, therefore, of at least a quarterly visit from an officer of the first-mentioned department, lasting at least a week at a time.

Malay.

65. These societies—the Red and White Flag—are, as I reported last year, to some extent kept under by fear of the Ordinance, but there have been one or two cases which no doubt are due to them, and there is a good deal of fermentation below the surface. It is said that they have been nominally replaced by the names "Russian" and "Turkish," which hardly mends matters. If the police are unable to find any means of crushing these objectionable organisations, which are utilised by influential natives for the purpose of increasing their influence and of squeezing their poorer brethren, there is no immediate prospect of doing away with them, but in course of time it may be hoped that education will do something to open the eyes of the masses to their folly in allowing themselves to be made tools of.

Contagious Diseases Ordinance.

66. The following table will show the working of the Ordinance:—

Number of Inmates on Register.			Prosecutions.			Fees received.	Expenditure.		
Chinese.	Malays.	Indians.	Number of Cases.	Fines recovered.	Persons sent to Prison.		Salaries.	Office contingencies.	Transport.
1,151	—	1	2	$ 100	—	1,152	$ 323·22*	—	—

* From January to June $240 per annum, from 16th August to 31st December $540 per annum.

67. There are no doubt Malays who ought to be brought under the Ordinance, and it may be anticipated that action will be taken in this direction.

68. For a considerable part of the year, owing to the demolition of the old Lock Hospital buildings consequent on the construction of the new High School and the occupation of the old Hospital with pauper patients pending the completion of the new Pauper Hospital at Dûsun Dûrian Daun, there have been no quarters for the admission of patients under the Ordinance, and their examination was, therefore, obliged to be discontinued for some months, but it will shortly be resumed.

Prisons.

69. The prisoners committed to the criminal prison during the year were:—

One month and under	98
Two months	28
Three months	29
Six months	37
One year	4
Two years	5
Three years	1
Four years	3
Ten years	8
Life	1
	214

70. Of these, 143 were Chinese, 54 Malays, and 17 Indians, which, according to the census, makes one in 138 for the Chinese, one in 1,250 for the Malays, and one in 113 for the Indians.

71. Twenty long-sentenced prisoners were transferred to Singapore.

72. The daily average number of prisoners was 34·11. The daily average number in hospital was 2·23. There were no deaths.

73. Under the careful charge of the Superintendent, the usual cleanly condition of the prison, upon which the health of the prisoners so much depends, was maintained.

74. There were no escapes during the year.

75. In the civil prison were committed:—

For safe custody	159
For trial	30
Simple imprisonment	2
Debtors	—
Lunatics	22
	213

76. Of the above figures, the last item alone calls for comment, the number of lunatics in 1882 having been 14 only. Of these 22 lunatics, 10 were released by the magistrate, after they had been subjected to medical observations; the increase in the numbers is due probably to closer observations on the part of the police.

77. The staff of the prison for the year consisted of the Superintendent, two European warders, a Portuguese sub-warder, and five native warders.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

MALACCA.

EDUCATION.

78. The average enrolment of scholars in the schools of the Settlement for the last five years is shown in the figures below:—

	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.
High School - - Boys	209	242	299	276	275
French Mission Schools—					
St. Francis - - Boys	171	173	165	135	101
The Convent - - Girls	70	80	100	70	95
Portuguese Mission Schools—					
Tranquerah - - Boys	44	38	35	32	33
Banda Hîlir - Boys	43	37	40	31	32
Banda Hîlir - Girls	34	34	33	31	32
Malacca Girls' School -	29	25	18	19	16
Vernacular Schools - Boys	582	637	636	796	1,437
Total - -	1,182	1,266	1,326	1,390	2,021

79. The Vernacular Schools alone show a notable increase, having nearly doubled their numbers, which may be attributed chiefly to the Pĕnghûlus having now a small pecuniary interest in them, though they still need their attention to be directed to the subject, which I have done and continue to do when circumstances call for it.

80. A strong prejudice has existed against education amongst the natives in the interior of the Settlement, which was exemplified by a Pĕnghûlu telling me, on my informing him that as he could neither read nor write, he must get a *mâta-mâta* who could, that he did not want a man so qualified, as such people were generally "*jahat*" (bad characters). With the spread of education and the gradually growing appreciation of its benefits which cannot fail to result, these prejudices will in time disappear.

81. The numbers of the High School remain much as they were, but now the head master has returned from England, and on the completion of the fine new school, an increase may be looked for.

82. The other schools show rather a tendency to decrease, which I am unable to account for.

Hospitals.

83. The following table shows the number of patients treated in the different hospitals during the year :—

—	General Hospital.	Lock Hospital.	Pauper Hospital.	Gaol Hospital.	Leper Shed.	Small-pox Hospital.	Total.
Remained from 1882	11	—	115	4	1	—	131
Admitted in 1883	154	—	857	58	5	9	1,083
Total	165	—	972	62	6	9	1,214
Discharged	150	—	709	57	—	5	921
Absconded	2	—	14	—	1	3	20
Transferred	—	—	—	2	5	—	7
Died	7	—	155	2	—	1	165
Total	159	—	878	61	6	9	1,113
Remained at the close of 1883	6	—	94	1	—	—	101
							1,214

Pauper Hospital—Diseases.

84. The chief diseases treated in the Pauper Hospital were as under :—

—	Admissions.	Discharges.	Deaths.
Ague	45	41	2
Rheumatism	14	13	—
Syphilis	14	13	—
Phthisis	18	4	14
Sloughing Phagedœna	15	9	12
Anœmia	18	16	3
General Dropsy	141	119	22
Beri-Beri	95	86	9
Paralysis	154	139	23
Dysentery	10	5	4
Diarrhœa	11	3	8
Abscess	9	9	1
Ulcer	93	91	—
General Debility	133	92	39
Other Diseases	87	69	18
Total	857	709	155

85. The above numbers show a large decrease, compared with those of 1882, which were 1,170. This may be attributed in the first place to the absence of cholera, also to a considerable diminution in the cases of sloughing phagedœna, * general dropsy, beri-beri, dysentery, diarrhœa, and ulcer; † while there was a noticeable increase in cases of paralysis ‡ and general debility

* Due to less over-crowding.

† All these probably owing to more favourable weather.

‡ The Colonial Surgeon considers as in great measure the "sequela" of beri-beri.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

MALACCA.

The numbers were still nearly 200 ahead of those for 1881, which were 677, but this is probably due to an increasing appreciation of the treatment received in the hospital.

86. The per-centage of deaths was 15·98, as against 16·04 for 1882 (excluding the cholera cases of that year).

87. The excellent new Pauper Hospital at Dûsun Dûrian Daun with accommodation for 144, and a "gangrene" ward for 12 patients, was taken over by the Medical Department on the 24th October. Experience so far has shown that the ventilation was somewhat more than the patients could stand and the space between the top of the partitions and the roof has accordingly been reduced with satisfactory results.

Vaccination.

88. The Vaccination Returns for the last five years give the following results:—

	Cases.	Successful.
1879 - - - -	1,400	1,052
1880 - - - -	1,870	1,561
1881 - - - -	1,669	1,117
1882 - - - -	1,400	1,016
1883 - - - -	1,750	1,231

89. The quality of lymph has of late been improved, the number of punctures increased, and an additional vaccinator has been appointed, so that more satisfactory results may be looked for in future.

90. The proportion of successful cases is not so high as it ought to be for the past year; this is attributed to the number of cases "not seen" being considerably greater than in the preceding year.

General Health of the Settlement.

91. The general health of the Settlement, as is shown by the figures below, decidedly improved during the past year:—

	Diarrhœa and Dysentery.	Fever.	Small-pox.	Beri-Beri.	Other Causes.
1882 -	257	1,116	327	42	1,675
1883 -	123	800	254	33	1,440
Decrease -	134	316	73	9	235

92. I desire here to repeat the recommendation I made in my last annual report, that there should be one or two small district hospitals in the interior. I am convinced that the expenditure would not be thrown away, numbers of cases would come up for treatment which never reach the town, and the Medical Department would acquire some insight into the variety of diseases which, in native parlance, come under the general term "*dĕmam*" —fever.

Births and Deaths.

93. The following figures show the births and deaths for the past three years:—

	Births.	Deaths.
1881 - - - -	2,100	1,244
1882 - - - -	1,896	3,930
1883 - - - -	2,142	2,652

94. There is no doubt that the registration under both heads has improved of late owing to the increased efforts of the police, and perhaps, in some measure, to hints conveyed to the Pĕnghûlus.

METEOROLOGICAL.

95. From the return (*G*) *attached it will be found that the rainfall for the year was 90·95 inches, about the average, but the rainfall of the preceding year was nearly 30 inches below the average, so that there is still a larger arrear to make good.

Direction of the Wind.

96. For the first five months of the year, the direction of the wind was north-east a month too long, then for five months it was south-west, the 11th month north-north-west, and the 12th north-east again, so that the normal condition was not quite restored. Between the north-east and south-west monsoons, there should be a transition period of south-east and south, and similarly a north-west between the south-west and north-east, when the most violent squalls known to Malacca usually blow.

97. Meteorological observation should be widely extended in this Settlement, which offers so favourable a field for it, with promise of important results. If district hospitals are not erected, the police stations at all events can be utilised so far as ther-

* Not printed.

mometers and rain-gauges go. At present, some observations, besides those in town, are taken at the new hospital at Dûsun Dûrian Daun ,and the Kĕsang Station, 18 miles up country. Next year I hope to see the area of observation greatly extended.

98. Recent observations, so far as they go, tend to show what I have long believed, that the area occupied by a town diminished the rain-dropping tendency of clouds, and this is an argument in favour of having reserves as near town as possible, as well as in favour of water-works.

Savings Bank.

99. This Bank was started on the 1st May, 1883, and up to the end of the year eleven accounts were opened, two of which have been closed.

100. The amounts of the 27 deposits made was $1,050, while $203.28 were withdrawn including interest.

101. The result so far cannot be regarded as satisfactory, but besides the usual slowness of the people in appreciating institutions intended for their benefit, obstacles have arisen from insinuations circulated by interested parties as to the motives of Government in the matter. Notices have, however, been posted all over the country in all the native languages, showing the advantages of the bank for small depositors, and in course of time it may be hoped that they will be more widely made use of and appreciated.

102. A statement of the Assets and Liabilities (*H*) is attached.

STATEMENT H.

Savings Bank, Malacca.

ASSETS.	$	c.	LIABILITIES.	$	c.
Fixed deposit with Chartered Bank, Singapore - -	680	00	Amount due depositors - -	868	60
Interest on the above during 1883 - - - -	18	34	Balance in favour of the bank -	2	41
Balance of current account with Chartered Mercantile Bank, Malacca - - -	172	67			
Total - -	871	01	Total - -	871	01

Malacca Library.

103. This institution, which was started in the latter half of 1881, in 1883 received a donation of $500 from the Government, which is to be continued yearly. The number of monthly subscribers for the year was 41. The expenditure for upkeep is about half the revenue, the balance being devoted to increasing the at present small stock of books.

104. The library is much appreciated by the local residents. It has been granted by Government the temporary use of a room opposite the telegraph quarters, but will, on the completion of the new High School, be removed to the building hitherto used for that institution.

(Signed) D. F. A. HERVEY,
Resident Councillor.

Resident Councillor's Office,
Malacca, 22nd April 1884.

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